

# THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER



VOLUME CX, ISSUE 17

PUBLISHED SINCE 1896 BY THE STUDENTS OF THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

FEBRUARY 23, 2006

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MARK MEHLINGER/NEWS-LETTER

Wendyce Brody, Dean of Enrollment William Conley and Dean of Student Life Susan Boswell serve cake at the 130-year Commemoration Day celebration on Wednesday.

## University celebrates 130 years since founding

By **AMANDA DIOS**  
The Johns Hopkins News-Letter

Approximately 300 students and faculty attended Commemoration Day ceremonies held Wednesday in honor of the 130th anniversary of the University's

founding. University President William Brody, who greeted students as they came through the door of Levering Hall, where the celebration was held, said, "I think what we are trying to do is to get the Hopkins students to feel

more of a sense of community and belonging."

Paula Burger, dean of undergraduate education, said, "I actually am pleased with the turnout, especially since we are not outside, and I am also pleased with the spirit. The idea was to invite faculty, staff and students. There has been a good mix of all the constituencies, including some visitors."

Brody added, "It's hard because Hopkins students are very driven and that's terrific, but [college is] also a time to build a sense of relationships and community, and I think that is as important."

Brody thinks that there has been a significant improvement in attendance of events this year, despite conventional thinking about the social apathy of Hopkins students. "We've always had a very smart group of students, but I think the students today are more rounded, more broadly focused, and I think

that also helps create interest in community events."

Burger's office was responsible for planning this year's ceremony. Commenting on the methods used to notify students of the event, Burger said, "We sent out a broadcast e-mail, but I fear that so often students ignore broadcast e-mails. What I hope is that if we do this next year people will know that this is coming and will know what to expect."

John Bader, co-chair of the Committee on Traditions, also took part in the festivities. "Commemoration Day used to be a big deal on the Johns Hopkins University Campus. It celebrated the commemoration of Gilman as Johns Hopkins' first president," he explained. "We are reviving a tradition in a small way here."

According to Bader, one of the biggest problems that undergraduates have is the mentality that they are the only group of students to have attended Hop-

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MARK MEHLINGER/NEWS-LETTER

Ralph Fessler, dean of the School of Professional Studies and Business Education, gets a piece of cake at Wednesday's Commemoration Day ceremony in Levering Union.

## MSE Symposium signs Newt Gingrich

Co-chairs of fall speaker series name fundraising, seeking bigger names as highest priorities

By **KATHERINE BREWER**  
The Johns Hopkins News-Letter

The co-chairs of the 2006 MSE Symposium announced this week that former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich is the first speaker to have been booked for the fall series.

The MSE staff also is working to raise funds far above the \$52,000 given to the organization by the University.

"We wanted a big name quickly," said sophomore Arash Massoudi, MSE publicity chair. Steven Farber, programming chair, added, "In a year he will probably be bigger. There are rumors that he will run for president."

The Symposium worked with the Young American Foundation, a conservative group, to help finance Gingrich's appearance. The staff is already in negotiations with the Center for American Progress, a liberal group, to help bring more left-wing speakers to campus.

"We negotiated the price down from \$50,000 to \$15,000 out of MSE's pocket," Massoudi said.

MSE Symposium is given \$52,000 from the University each year, and the Symposium fund-raises an extra money.

"We raised \$3,000 just this week," said sophomore Leslie Schoeck, whose total budget goal is set somewhere between \$90,000 to \$100,000. "We are try-

ing to work with as many organizations as possible."

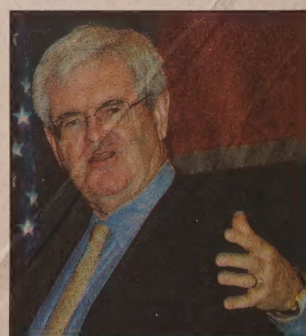
"We want to get the biggest names we can. We want to pack Shriver," Massoudi said. He recalled General Wesley Clark's packed Shriver speech in 2004, saying, "We want our speakers to pack Shriver like that."

However, he conceded that

some names were simply out of the question. "It costs \$200,000 to get Bill Clinton to speak. We just can't do that," Massoudi said.

Staffers expressed interest in signing speakers with a variety of backgrounds to attract as many students as possible.

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COURTESY HTTP://WPCAREYASU.EDU  
Former House Speaker Newt Gingrich will headline next fall's MSE symposium.

## Demolition on 33rd St. planned for spring

By **MITRA HESHMATI**  
The Johns Hopkins News-Letter

Struener Bros. Eccles & Rouse construction company (SBER) has announced plans to begin demolition this spring or summer on the 33rd Street block that includes the University MiniMart and the old Pi Kappa Alpha (Pike) and Alpha Delta Phi (WaWa) fraternity houses.

Village West condominiums will replace the boarded-up frat houses, along with other row-houses on the west side of 3200 block of St. Paul Street and the garages on Lovegrove Street. Across the street, the Village Lofts development is under construction, replacing 15 rowhouses with 68 condominiums that are currently for sale.

UniMini, which sits at the edge of the construction, will move this October or November to a new location in Village

Lofts next to the Subway across the street.

Assistant Development Director for SBER Emilie Baratta said, "We are keeping all the structures secure, keeping the properties safe. It's our goal to bring them down in the spring or the summer."

Baratta added, "The frat houses from our perspective are just a part of the overall development."

UniMini owner Sam Hamideh said, "I'm still in the neighborhood. I'm not going anywhere — from west side to east side."

Paula Burger, dean of undergraduate education and vice provost, said, "I know of no reason why the move has affected campus social life since these groups are still very close to the campus, and I assume that they still enjoy the same things that they have previously enjoyed."

According to SBER, in addition to housing the UniMini, Village Lofts will have space for street-side retail and parking. With 108 condominiums, retail and restaurant space and a 400-space public parking deck, Village West will also transform the block.

The development of the 3200 block by SBER is completely independent of the University.

Baratta said, "Overall, new streetscape combined with increased density, increased home ownership and a wonderful collection of new shops and restaurants will enhance Charles Village's eclectic, pedestrian-friendly environment."

Burger agreed, saying, "Together, the Hopkins Charles Commons project, the Struener Bros. residential/commercial projects on the east side and the one on the

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## Spring Fair to move to N. Charles

Residents upset that University made no effort to notify them

By **CHRISTINE HIGGINS**  
The Johns Hopkins News-Letter

Despite community concerns, Spring Fair's performers and amusement rides will move to North Charles Street and the Beach this year due to construction of the Decker Quad.

"We knew we wouldn't be able to use the Garland lot as of last year due to all the construction," said senior Katherine Young, executive co-chair of Spring Fair. "We had started thinking of alternative locations then."

Due to the size and weight of the rides, the options were limited. "The rides were on Freshman Quad a number of years ago," Dean of Student Life Susan Boswell said. "However, after the brick pathways went down, the ground could no longer support the weight of the rides. Ground irrigation around campus is a problem, too."

Boswell continued, "There is an ongoing attempt to make the fair as much as it can be, and we have been working hard to revitalize the fair." With this revitalization in mind, more options were considered in the planning process.

"We had considered moving the rides to Wyman Park or the Eastern High School campus, but everything would be so decentralized. It just would have killed the continuity of the fair," Young said.

The rides are not the only portion of the Spring Fair that will be relocated: The whole fair is being recentralized around the North Charles Street

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## Students to protest sale of Spelman

Fundraisers say that renovating the Villa is not a current priority

By **SAMMY ROSE SALTZMAN**  
The Johns Hopkins News-Letter

Angered students have announced plans to stage a protest at March's Board of Trustees meeting after hearing news that the School of Arts and Sciences is looking to sell the Villa Spelman in Florence, Italy.

Both alumni and staff of the Villa have expressed frustration with the decision to sell as well as the University's handling of the situation.

Senior Lana Jo Hill, who attended the Spring 2005 semester at the Villa and is one of the students organizing the protest, said, "There's a Board of Trustees meeting on March 1, and there will be a picket line there. In the meantime we will be handing out fliers with President [William] Brody and Dean [of the School of Arts and Sciences Adam] Falk's contact info so people can tell them their concerns."

The demonstration was originally planned to take place at Wednesday's Commemoration Day ceremony, but it was postponed due to rain until March's meeting, when the Board of Trustees will discuss more concrete plans regarding the decision to sell the Villa.

Other students who have attended the program as well as current staff of the Villa have criticized the University for improperly notifying them of and excluding them from the decision.

"What makes me angry about the whole thing is that there is a complete lack of transparency on part of the administration," said senior Gabe Hopkins, who attended the Villa in Spring 2005.

Senior Elana Snow said, "My friend from Villa Spelman and I tried to set

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## Destruction of fraternity houses to revitalize neighborhood

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west side of St. Paul Street, and some streetscaping should make for a real renaissance of this area within a very short period of time."

As of now, SBER has yet to begin the construction of Village West.

Baratta explained that the plans for demolition and building are now unknown. "The timeline for demolition and construction for Village West is still evolving. We hope to have Village Lofts open by late 2006 or early 2007, if not sooner."

Senior Director of Design & Construction for Hopkins Facilities Management Jim Miller said, "The only thing that we've really been involved in is monitoring it as a concerned neighborhood resident, almost from a community review perspective."

Commenting on the effects of the planned demolition, Hamideh said he misses the WaWa fraternity brothers, who lived just above the UniMini before they moved out at the beginning of last semester to accommodate the construction.

"I've been here in this location for 13 years, and I've always had a good relationship with the students. I miss the fraternity."

Since relocating this past



Pi Kappa Alpha abandoned its former fraternity house last fall to accommodate the expanding residential construction project.

summer, Pike students have acquired apartments in the Allston and the WaWa house has moved to 3209 N. Charles St.

"The only thing that we've

really been involved in is monitoring it as a concerned neighborhood resident, almost from a community review perspective," Miller said.

In addition to housing the UniMini, Village Lofts will have space for street-side retail and parking.

Baratta noted that the new additions to the neighborhood would make Charles Village a more tight-knit community.

"Overall, new streetscape combined with increased density, increased home ownership and a wonderful collection of new shops and restaurants will enhance Charles Village's eclectic, pedestrian-friendly environment," he said.

Burger agreed, saying, "Together, the Hopkins Charles Commons project, the Struever Bros. residential and commercial projects on the east side and the one on the west side of St. Paul, and some streetscaping should make for a real renaissance of

this area within a very short period of time."

Some students also think they will enjoy the new developments and do not mind that UniMini will be moving.

"If [UniMini] is refurbished and there's actually some seating, the relocation might be for the better," freshman Samantha Collado said.

Freshman Emily LiMandri agreed: "Living in Bradford, it will be much more convenient for me to get a chicken parm."

"I think it's about time that they developed that area, because we don't really have a downtown area for the students to hang out and spend time in."

Junior Chunwoo Kae shared LiMandri's sentiments, also expressing relief that the fraternities will be replaced. "I think it's great and I'm glad that those whack frats were forced to leave. I'm excited to see the community redeveloped."

## New MSE Symposium looks to raise \$100K

After signing former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich, co-chairs aim to bring more big names to Shriver Hall

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"We are considering bringing in a political comedian or an actor or musician," Massoudi said. "We're going after younger people and pop culture is a part of our society."

"We're also very interested in security and privacy, which are two big topics in America now," he added. "We are also really interested in the war in Iraq, especially concerning the possibility of a draft."

Massoudi continued, "Last fall they had some really smart people, but not the name recognition, so no one came. People won't see people they've never heard of, that's just not the reality on this campus."

"I don't want to get someone who has a great message and then have them speak to a few audience members in Shriver," Massoudi said.

The Symposium has currently sent out over 60 invitations, hoping to attract some long shots to speak at Hopkins.

"We are trying to work with everyone we can," Farber said. "We signed up on The Center for American Progress campus tour. Last year they had John Edwards. This year there is talk of Tom Daschle, and it's all paid for."

Farber added, "We probably won't have a complete list until the middle of this summer, but it's great that we got such a big name

so early." He said that the staff's goal is to have five to six speakers.

"We want to set a precedent," Massoudi said. "We have an amazing staff and we want this to be the best symposium."

The theme of the Symposium is "Finding Our Place in Society: The Role of America's Youth," and the Symposium's members hope to target 18- to 24-year-olds.

Gingrich was the Republican party leader who helped orchestrate the "Contract with America" and brought his party a majority in the senate in 1994.

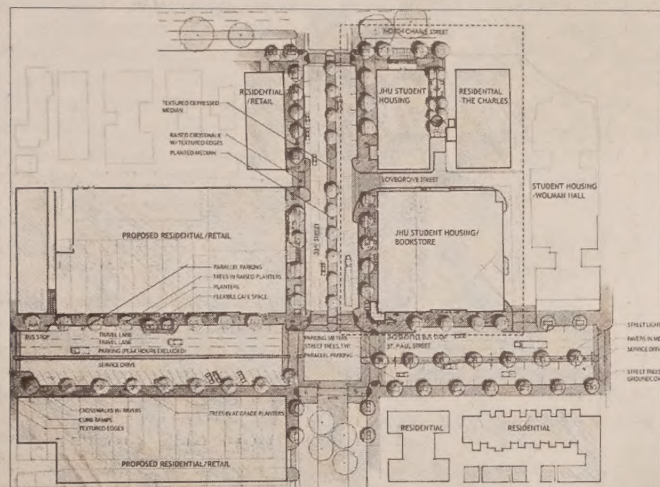
Initial student reaction to Gingrich was mixed. Some, such as sophomore Nate Rosenblatt, saw Gingrich as someone who would appeal to all parties. "[He's] a good controversial speaker. He'll bring people out and is a good resource," he said.

Senior Travis Crum agreed: "He's a fine speaker and he's probably a presidential candidate. I'm a liberal, but I'd go see him. The guy is a political mastermind."

Others were apathetic: "I don't really care," junior Janis Shif- fuilel said.

"It's not a bad choice, but a little random because its suppose to focus on the youth," sophomore Prija Pun said. "It will be interesting."

"I probably won't go to see him, but maybe," sophomore Jennifer Kaplan said.



This streetscape highlights the retail and residential areas to be built on 33rd Street.

### News Briefs

#### USA Today recognizes junior for volunteer work in India

USA Today's 17th annual collegiate recognition program, known as Academic First Team, honored junior Hari Prabhakar as one of the top 20 undergraduates nationwide.

Along with being a double major in Public Health Studies and Writing Seminars, Prabhakar launched his own foundation to benefit the beleaguered tribals of Tamil Nadu, India. His work includes developing strategies for treating sickle cell anemia that is extremely problematic in the region.

Prabhakar has been working since his freshman year to receive funding for research and for the health center that he founded in India to further the treatment and wellness of the tribals. He has advanced his donation strength by creating the Tribal India Health Foundation, and has received over \$13,500.

Since entering Hopkins, Prab-

hakar has routinely visited India, spending summers and the month of January each year on the Asian subcontinent. Prabhakar's concern over the tribals' plight was sparked while reading an Indian magazine shortly before starting his freshman year at Hopkins.

The tribals constitute approximately 10 percent of the Indian population, yet they receive little aid from the Indian government because they are traditionally on the lowest level of the social system.

They live in isolated, forested areas of the nation and have limited interaction with the other more heavily populated regions.

When asked about his accomplishments, Prabhakar responded that his mentors and professors were the motivation behind his achievements. He told the JHU Gazette, "When I look back at how

my project has come together, it shows me the power of mentoring. They showed me my path, they pushed me and showed me the way."

Prabhakar was not the only Hopkins student to be recognized by *USA Today*. Senior Christopher Kovalchick, who is completing a double major in engineering mechanics and performance violin at the Peabody Conservatory along with a math minor, received honorable mention.

Kovalchick's accomplishments include first place in an international student paper competition sponsored by the Society for Experimental Mechanics, principal second violinist and concertmaster in the Peabody Symphony Orchestra, and president and founder of the Hopkins Forensics Team.

—Christine Higgins

## Sharing Common Ground FRESHMAN HOUSING PROCESS 2006



Charles Commons, McCoy, Homewood and Bradford - with housing prospects such as these in your near future, there is much to look forward to for your sophomore year. Don't miss out on the upcoming Freshman Housing Process events:

Tuesday, Jan. 31st & Friday, Feb. 3rd  
**Housing and Dining Information Booth**  
12:00noon - 2:00 pm, Wolman Hall Lobby

Wednesday, Feb. 1st & Wednesday, Feb. 8th  
**Housing and Dining Information Booth**  
12:00noon - 2:00 pm, Gilman Breezeway

Wednesday, Feb. 8th  
**Group of 8 Information Session**  
4:00pm, AMR I Multipurpose Room

Wednesday, Feb. 8th - Tuesday, Feb. 14th  
**Group of 8 Registration to be completed and submitted on-line**  
Visit [www.jhu.edu/hds](http://www.jhu.edu/hds)  
► **Deadline:** Feb. 14th at 11:59pm ◄

Friday, Feb. 17th  
**Group of 8 Assignment Notification**  
Letters sent out by 5:00pm

Wednesday, Feb. 22nd  
**Charles Commons Hard Hat Tours**  
3:00pm - 5:00pm, Meet in the Lobby of Wolman

Friday, Feb. 24th  
**Residence Halls and Apartment Tours: McCoy/Bradford/Homewood**  
3:00pm - 5:00pm, Meet in the Lobby of Wolman

Wednesday, Mar. 1st & Friday, Mar. 3rd  
**Freshman Housing Process Information Sessions**  
4:00 pm, AMR I Multipurpose Room

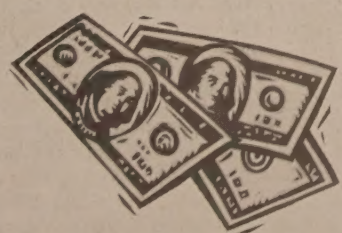
Wednesday, Mar. 1st - Wednesday, Mar. 8th  
**Greek Exemption Request to be completed and submitted on-line**  
Visit [www.jhu.edu/hds](http://www.jhu.edu/hds)  
► **Deadline:** Mar. 8th at 5:00pm ◄

Thursday, Mar. 2nd  
**Residence Halls and Apartment Tours: McCoy/Charles Commons/Bradford/Homewood**  
5:00pm-7:00pm, Meet in the Lobby of Wolman

Monday, March 6th  
**Commuter Exemption application deadline**  
Wolman Housing Office, Room 101

Friday, Mar. 10th - Friday, Mar. 17th  
**Freshman Housing Process Registration to be completed and submitted on-line**  
Visit [www.jhu.edu/hds](http://www.jhu.edu/hds)  
► **Deadline:** Mar. 17th at 5:00pm ◄

Friday, Mar. 31st  
**Notification of Freshman Housing Assignments by 5:00pm**



## Looking to make some cash this summer?

### Work for Summer Conferences 2006

#### Positions Available:

- Conference Managers
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- Office Staff
- Facility Staff

#### Compensation:

- Free Room & Board
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- Real Work Experience
- Fun Times

E-mail [jhuconferences@hd.jhu.edu](mailto:jhuconferences@hd.jhu.edu) or visit the AMR II Housing Office for further information.



## NEWS

## Administration defends need to sell Villa Spelman

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up a meeting with Dean Falk. Because so many people are contacting he won't meet with any students."

Dr. Laura di Polfi, administrative secretary at Villa Spelman, said, "Why have the staff here at Villa Spelman been kept in the dark? Why are we the last to know? We have learned only by hearsay and by forwarded messages about the intentions of the University to sell the Villa."

She added that she also has received no notice as to how her job will be affected. "I still haven't read a single word about possible future perspectives for the JHU personnel here in Florence. ... I find this extremely inconsiderate."

Hopkins also faulted the school for what he saw as too little effort to raise funds for the Villa. "I find it hard to believe they can't find the money," he said.

"They get money all the time for all sorts of reasons, why not make time to raise money for the villa? It's an obvious cause. ... I feel like it's another example of the school not caring about the student body and only caring about money."

According to William Kotti, associate dean of resource planning and development, the Villa has not been a recent fundraising priority. "We've been concentrating on undergraduate scholarships, which are a very important effort for the University."

"Also important is the Humanities Initiative, which includes the renovation of Gilman Hall — that's \$35 million right there — professorship support, programmatic support within the humanities and graduate support, which is fellowships. That initiative costs \$55 million."

Kotti added, "I know in the last campaign around 1993 there was activity in [raising money for] Villa."

However, he said, "Study abroad is important to the school and we're trying to raise revenue

from private sources."

Jerry Schnydmann, executive assistant to the president and secretary to the board of trustees, said that he regrets that the decision had to be made. "The situation is, can we afford the \$3 or \$4 million to repair the villa, and who's going to pay for the operating losses? The amount of money that is available for the operating expenses is not enough. It's heart-breaking but it's just that simple."

"Total budget that includes programming, staff and facilities is something over half a million dollars a year. And, that doesn't include a budget for large infrastructure investment," Falk said.

Schnydmann added that it would seem charge all students to support a program in which not all students participate. "We are going to do something that is best for our overall students and best for the institution under the circumstances. Should we charge our 4,300 students a higher charge to fix the Villa up for the 30 or 40 students who go there every year?"

Falk explained that due to budget constraints, the money received from the sale is needed at Homewood. "Operating costs will go into humanities in variety of ways," he explained, "[They will go to] replacing the program in Italy, raising graduate student stipends in the humanities in particular and also the social studies."

"We need to make an investment in graduate stipends throughout the school," he added.

"The budget does not provide enough money to make our stipends as competitive as we'd like them to be. It's very important for the operating costs to go back into academic programming because this really is a choice as to how to support the humanities."

The direct proceeds from the sale will be "used to support the academic mission of the school," Falk explained, but will not be spent to create programs that would become too expensive in the future.

## Students gather to discuss religious acceptance

By RAVI GUPTA  
The Johns Hopkins News-Letter

College students from across the country gathered on Feb. 16 for the second annual National Conference of College Multifaith Councils, called Coming Together 2, sponsored by the JHU Campus Ministries and the Interfaith Council.

"[Coming Together] was started last year at Princeton University, and this year we decided to feature it at Johns Hopkins. Our goal is to encourage students into constructive dialogue about interfaith communication and interaction and to highlight its importance on college campuses across the nation," event organizer senior Babak Mostaghimi said.

Mostaghimi reported success in attracting a similar student response as last year's event which drew 80 student representatives from national universities and colleges.

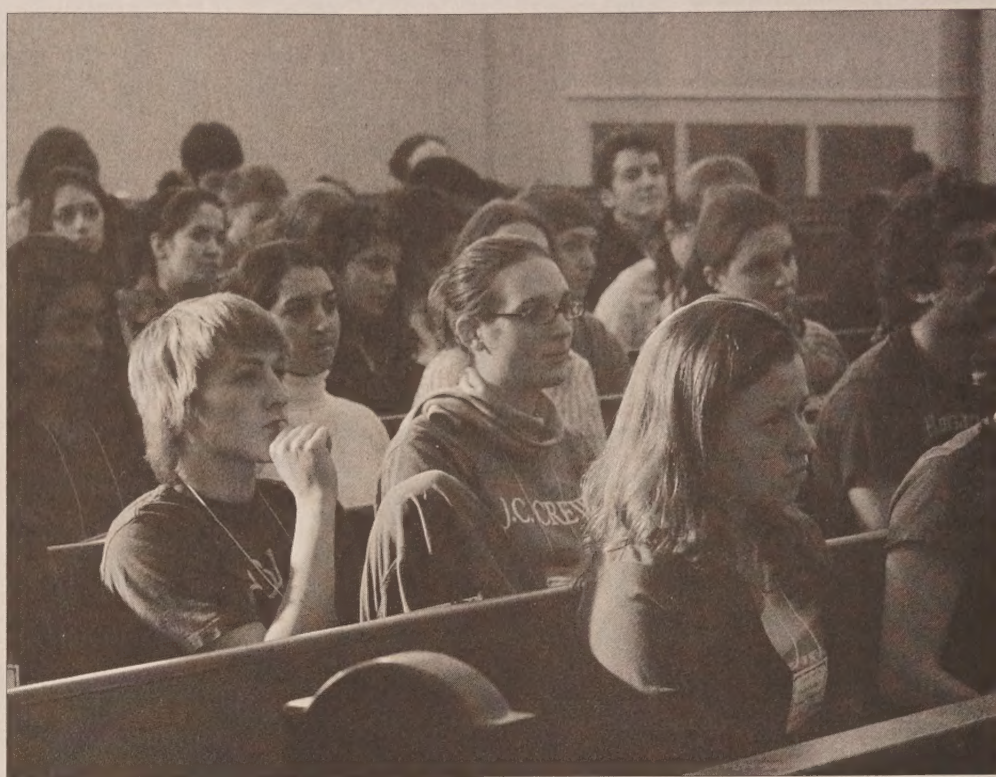
"We've been very successful in drawing student interest, receiving close to 30 student volunteers for the event and nearly 60 Hopkins students arriving for the activities and speakers. This year, we brought together nearly 80 students from about 30 universities," he said.

An entirely student-run event, Coming Together was formed as a venue for students around the nation to learn more about interfaith councils.

Many students come with the hopes of founding an interfaith council on their own campus and learning more about pre-existing councils from other students.

Workshops such as "Incorporating Religious Minorities into Your Campus Multi-Faith Council" and religious text studies were offered for students. Discussion groups covered issues ranging from "Religion in the Media" to "Crossing Boundaries Through Art."

The event was kicked off with a discussion among students regarding religious and spiritual



TURSINA ABDUL RASHID/NEWS-LETTER

Students from across the country attended Coming Together to learn about the role religion plays on a college campus.

identity on campus held at the Bunting Meyerhoff Interfaith Center on Thursday's Welcome Night.

Friday ran under the theme, "Interfaith Council: The Nuts and Bolts of It," and featured an interactive discussion session on the makeup and running of an interfaith council and talks by Welton Gaddy, president of the Interfaith Alliance, and Ahmed Younis, national director of the Muslim Public Affairs Council.

The speakers received an enthusiastic student response.

"Ahmed Younis was a wonderful speaker. People really appreciated what he had to say. He was truly able to provide hope and motivation for the students and sparked further discussion after his talk. It was nice to see the students getting involved," freshman Nadia Khan said.

The following day showcased the theme, "Learning, Visiting and Celebrating the Other" and began with workshops at the Interfaith Center followed by a talk by Dr. Rosann Catalano, scholar-in-residence at the Institute for Christian & Jewish Studies, and Joe Eldridge, university chaplain of American University.

"Dr. Catalano was a really enjoyable speaker. She presented an analysis of different religious texts to emphasize the importance of interfaith," said Lauren Mack, an undergraduate at the Pennsylvania State University.

"We found you can really learn a lot about your own religion by studying other faiths," she added.

On Saturday night, Professor Uma Saini, the JHU Vedic Campus Minister, gave a talk during the banquet dinner.

She imparted to the guests her advice on living a pleasant life, emphasizing students to "listen to [their] own inner conscience" and "continue to learn about other faiths while strengthening [their] own."

Coming Together 2 garnered positive reactions from students visiting from other universities and colleges.

"It was a really educational

experience and opened up a lot of connections between students of a variety of religious faiths. It was really interesting to learn about Sikhism and Baha'i, faiths I had never known about before this event," Noelle Romero, an undergraduate at Ursinus College, said.

"I thought it was rewarding to learn about how different religions can easily coexist. We enlightened each other and realized just how similar our faiths are on so many levels," Jennifer Washington, also an undergraduate at Ursinus College, said.

"[Today], for example, I took part in the Baha'i services offered at the IFC, a faith I previously knew nothing about. It was an exciting and an intellectually

stimulating experience for me," she added.

Sharon Kugler, the University Chaplain, praised the efforts of event organizers Babak Mostaghimi and Maytal Saltiel.

She said, "These two students along with a cadre of several other student volunteers representing many diverse faith traditions put together one of the most remarkable events to ever take place at Johns Hopkins."

"I had students from other campuses say to me that this weekend was the peak experience of their college years," she added.

Next year's Coming Together conference is scheduled to be held at the University of Southern California.



TURSINA ABDUL RASHID/NEWS-LETTER

Paula Burger, dean of undergraduate education, spoke at this weekend's second annual National Conference of Collegiate Multifaith Councils, hosted at the Interfaith Center.

## Student Council Executive Elections Information Session

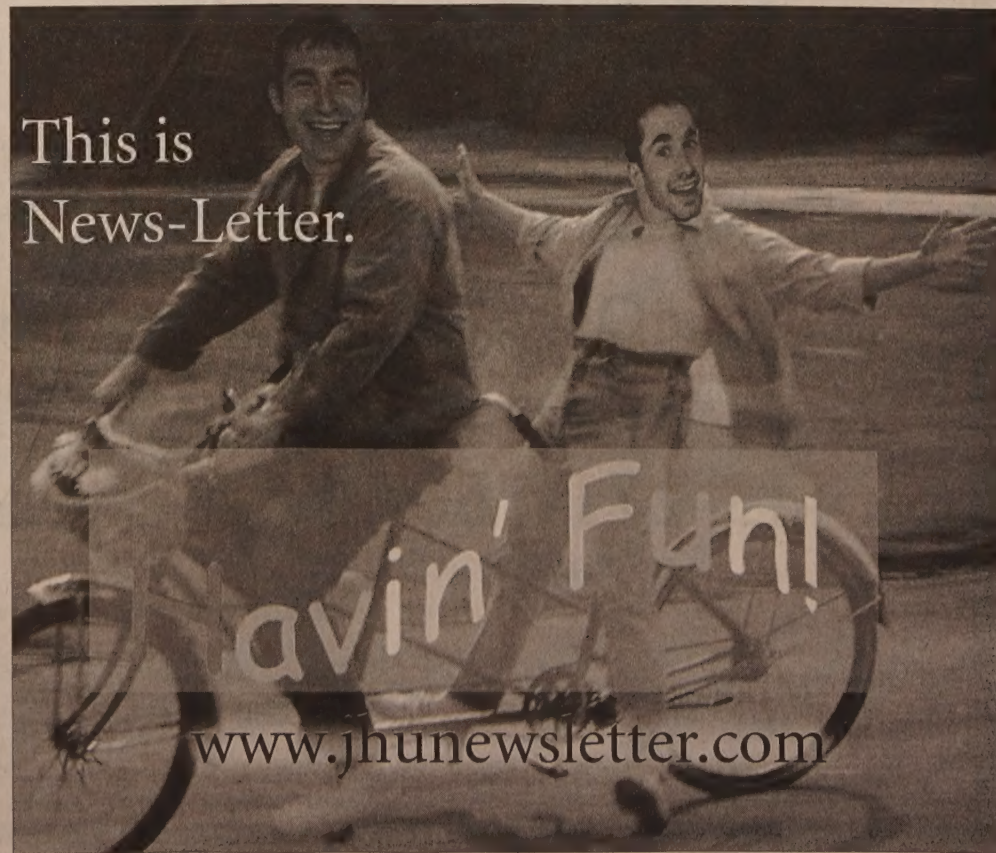
*Can you handle being President? VP? Secretary? Treasurer?*

Join the Committee for Student Elections for our Information Sessions.

**Thursday, February 23, 3:30-4:30, Sherwood Room, Levering Hall**

**Friday, February 24, 3:30-4:30, Sherwood Room, Levering Hall**

This is News-Letter.



www.jhunewsletter.com



NEWS

# Spring Fair staff hopes festival will quiet complaints

Baltimore City Councilwoman expresses concern over lack of notification by University

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1 attractions, which will extend from West University Parkway to 33rd Street. These blocks will be closed 6 p.m. Friday, April 21 until approximately 3 a.m. Monday morning.

"Where in years past things were removed from one another, now it'll be together — it'll be more compact and it wouldn't be as removed from the local residents," Young said.

According to junior Grant Boyadjan, co-chair of the committee for plan operations, "The biggest change this year is that the Beach will be the daytime stage, and it acts as a natural amphitheater. The music will be in the middle of the fair, and everyone will be able to hear and see the bands perform much better than in years past."

The Hopkins community is enthusiastic about the prospects for a centralized Spring Fair. "This change will only make the fair better," Boswell said.

"I can't imagine it wouldn't be more successful than last year," senior Jeff Russell, executive co-chair of Spring Fair, said. "And with the Fair being centered around the Beach, it's possible for almost everyone to get involved. In order to get anywhere on campus you'll have to cross through the Fair. Additionally, it ties the entire area together, even places Mt. Vernon."

Boyadjan added, "Homewood House is very excited about the fair being all around them — it will completely surround — and will be receiving tons of publicity."

However, some are worried as to how the community will respond when they are notified of the weekend road closure.

"We worked with [Director of the Mattin Center and Levering Union] Jane Rhyner and other Hopkins offices to contact the city to close the street down; even months ago this didn't seem out



N. Charles St., a central roadway to the Charles Village neighborhood, will be shut down for three days in April for Spring Fair.

the question. When the city granted us permission they set boundaries to minimize the amount of rush hour traffic affected. Our original proposal was for Thursday night until Monday morning, but the city turned that down."

In regard to concerns about residential backlash, the Director of Community Affairs Salem Riener said, "Overall the community is not going to be particularly happy about the road closure for three basic reasons. First, the University did not extend the courtesy of informing them about the situation prior to seeking the city's permission. Second, commuters and the traffic backups will be detoured through residential streets. Third, there is no place for the roughly 200 cars that normally park on those blocks to go. Outside of getting to their houses, the residents often use those blocks to

circle to find parking, and now there won't be any available."

Baltimore Councilwoman Mary Pat Clark said, "Let me just say that it is important for the neighbors and neighborhood to be involved in this decision. I think it is extremely inappropriate that this was not mentioned to the community already when we have so many meetings to discuss our traffic and parking concerns. We can always ask the city to revoke its approval — it's not too late for sponsors to meet with neighbors and gain support for a repeal."

"I don't blame the students, at all," she cautioned.

Senior Mike Kalina, co-chair of the security committee, said, "We have to go door-to-door and explain to the residents what is going to happen. We also need to flyer all the cars that are parked there to let them know that the

street will be closed."

Outside of any inconveniences to residents, the University says the Fair should draw members of the community as well as the student body.

Riener said, "A more positive overture is that for the local residents will be able to enjoy the fair more because it will be more accessible to both adults and kids."

"We saw the extension of Spring Fair onto North Charles as an excellent way to bridge the Charles Village community and the Hopkins community together," Rhyner added.

Kalina said, "Spring Fair has had no prior problem with community, they love it. Our fair is definitely open to the public, and we are pushing to get more local involvement. I'm hopeful the move to North Charles will do just that."

# Administration looks to improve traditions

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1 kins. He said, "This is the biggest problem we have. Most undergraduates feel that they are isolated in time."

"When you open up the yearbook from 1916 you see these young faces. I don't think that there is a sense of belonging when you don't see history."

Alyssa Choi, a sophomore who attended the ceremony, said, "I came to get some cake and to join in the school spirit because Hopkins kind of lacks it."

"It's good that Hopkins is trying to get people together," Choi added.

Freshman Taylor Ezra agreed, saying, "I'm here to join the festivities and have some fun."

When asked about the University's promotion of the event, he said he thought that the ceremony was very well publicized.

"I saw plenty of posters and ribbons around campus announcing the event," he explained. "A fair number of people showed up."

Although students made up the bulk of the attendance, a number of faculty and staff members also showed up. Leslie Wiggins, who works at the library, was among them.

She said, "We thought that President Brody was giving a speech. We just wanted to come see what was going on." Although Brody did not give a speech during the ceremony, there was nonetheless ample opportunity for student-faculty interaction.

Wilbur Channels, a graduate student, said of the attendance at

the event, "It seems like a good turnout."

When asked how he found out about the ceremony, he said, "I found out about it from the homepage."

Courtney Whitehead, an alum who came back for the ceremony, said of the University, "I was here in the 70s and it has changed quite a bit. The classes are more conditioned to student learning and there are more focused student centers. It's a big change between the late 70s and now."

Whitehead said he also found out about Commemoration through the Johns Hopkins Web site.

**I think that students do have school spirit; it just shows in a different way. But these are fun things to do on a dull and dreary day.**

— PAMELA BUELL, STAFF MEMBER, OFFICE OF DEVELOPMENT

Pamela Buell, who works in the Development Office, thinks that students do value University tradition.

"I think that students do have school spirit; it just shows in a different way. But these are fun things to do on a dull and dreary day."

Of the ceremony, she said, "It's a great turnout and everyone is eating cake. What could be better?"

Brody added, "The whole idea is to make this a real destination, not just a place with classes ... have a sense that this is a really exciting place to be not just an exciting place to study."

"There are very few events which bring the whole university together," Burger said, "and that's one of the reasons why people do ... commemoration day. So it seemed like, what would get people to come together? Free food and in a central location. I think we need to do more of it."

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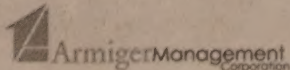
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# WORLD NEWS

## News Briefs

### Nuclear energy negotiations in Moscow bring hope for future

(AP) — A top Iranian negotiator on Tuesday said “constructive” nuclear talks in Moscow offered hope of ending a diplomatic standoff, but some Russians voiced concern that Iran was using the talks to stall for time and avert international sanctions.

The talks centered on a Kremlin compromise proposal, backed by the United States and the European Union, that calls for uranium for Iran’s nuclear energy program to be enriched in Russia to prevent it from being diverted for atomic weapons.

Enriched uranium can be used as fuel for a nuclear reactor or fissile material for a bomb. Iran says it is pursuing peaceful nuclear energy but Western nations fear it is seeking an atomic weapon.

“In our belief, the trend of negotiations was positive and constructive,” Iran’s chief negotiator, Ali Hosseinitash, told state-run Iranian television as he left Moscow after two days of meetings. “There are elements in these negotiations that give us grounds for hope that we will reach an agreement,” Russia’s Interfax news agency quoted Hosseinitash, the deputy secretary of the Supreme National Security Council, as saying.

The negotiations ended without any visible progress, but Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov declined to label them a failure. “I would be cautious about using the term ‘failure’ or ‘setback’ as long as the negotiations have not finished,” he said in televised remarks.

U.S. Undersecretary of State Nicholas Burns said Tuesday on a visit to Moscow that “from what we know ... no new ground was broken,” but added that he thought broad cooperation among countries in pressuring Iran was working well. “I think the momentum is with this coalition,” Burns told reporters. Russia’s atomic chief, Sergei Kiriyenko, who is set to visit Iran Thursday for further talks, said, “Russia will do everything possible to offer Iran an opportunity to get out of this difficult situation in a peaceful, constructive way.”

— Vladimir Isachenkov  
The Associated Press

### Sup. Court to consider reinstating partial-birth abortion ban

(AP) — The Supreme Court said Tuesday it would consider reinstating a federal ban on what opponents call partial-birth abortion, pulling the contentious issue back to the high court on conservative Justice Samuel Alito’s first day.

Alito could well be the tie-breaking vote when the court decides if doctors can be barred from performing the abortion procedure.

It is the first time the court has considered a federal restriction on abortion, and conservatives said they expect the membership change to affect the outcome. “This is the front-line abortion case in the country,” said Jay Sekulow, chief counsel for the conservative American Center for Law and Justice, who represents members of Congress in the case.

Justices split 5-4 in 2000 in striking down a state law barring the same procedure because it lacked an exception to protect the health of the mother. Justice Sandra Day O’Connor, who was the tie-breaking vote, retired late last month and was replaced by Alito.

Abortion was a major focus in the fight over Alito’s nomination, and that of new Chief Justice John Roberts. Neither divulged how he would vote. Even with O’Connor’s retirement, there are five votes to uphold *Roe v. Wade*, the 1973 landmark ruling that established a woman’s right to an abortion.

Abortion rights groups were worried, however, that the new court could make it easier for legislators to limit women’s access to abortions. “Today’s action means the core principle of protecting women’s health as guaranteed by *Roe v. Wade* is in clear and present danger,” said Nancy Keenan, president of NARAL Pro-Choice America.

Justices will hear arguments this fall, as voters are preparing for midterm elections, with a ruling likely next year as presidential campaigns are gearing up. Congress had voted in 2003 to prohibit the type of abortion, generally carried out in the second or third trimester, in which a fetus is partially removed from the womb and its skull punctured or crushed.

— Gina Holland  
The Associated Press

### Most Americans ready for a female president, poll shows

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — A majority of American voters remain ready to elect a woman president, and Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice is making gains on that front while Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton’s support remains steady, according to nationwide poll released Sunday.

In the poll commissioned by Hearst Newspapers, the percentage respondents who said Rice should run for president swelled to 48 percent, up from 42 percent in a similar poll conducted in February of last year.

Clinton, whose polls show her leading all potential Democratic candidates for the party’s 2008 nomination, saw mounting resistance to a presidential campaign: 44 percent of the people polled said she should not run, up from 37 percent a year ago. At the same time, 51 percent said she should run. Fifty-three percent said she should run in last year’s poll. Rice has said she will not run for president while Clinton has said her focus is on winning re-election to the Senate this year.

Nearly two-thirds — 64 percent — of the new poll’s respondents said the nation is ready for a woman president now, about the same as the 62 percent who felt that way in the 2005 poll by Siena College’s Research Institute. Seventy-nine percent in this year’s poll, compared to 81 percent last year, said they were willing to vote for a woman.

Clinton’s “should run” numbers and the “ready for a woman president” numbers are within the poll’s sampling error margin of plus or minus three percentage points.

The poll found a majority of registered voters thought a woman president would handle national security-related issues as well as a male president, including serving as commander-in-chief of the military.

— The Associated Press

## Hamas leader refuses to engage in peace talks

By IBRAHIM BARZAK  
The Associated Press

(AP) — Ismail Haniyeh of the militant group Hamas was appointed Tuesday as the next Palestinian prime minister, but he refused to respond to a demand from the president to adhere to interim peace deals reached with Israel.

After accepting the letter designating him as prime minister, Haniyeh met with Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas for more than two hours, their second such session in two days — an indication of the wide gaps between the two men.

Abbas is the head of Fatah, the Islamic movement Hamas trounced in last month’s Palestinian parliamentary election. Abbas was elected president last year, and now he will have to deal with a Hamas parliament and Cabinet.

## Harvard president resigns amid controversy

By ANDREW RYAN  
The Associated Press

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. (AP) — Lawrence H. Summers, the polarizing Harvard University president, said Tuesday that he is resigning at the end of the academic year, brought down by clashes with faculty and missteps including his comments that innate ability may partly explain why few women reach top science posts.

“I have reluctantly concluded that the rifts between me and segments of the Arts and Sciences faculty make it infeasible for me to advance the agenda of renewal that I see as crucial to Harvard’s future,” Summers wrote in a letter posted on Harvard’s Web site.

“I believe, therefore, that it is

best for the University to have new leadership.”

Summers’ resignation, effective June 30, ends the briefest tenure of any Harvard president since 1862, when Cornelius Felton died after two years in office.

Summers was appointed to the post in 2001.

He became embroiled in several controversies early in his tenure, among them the departure of several prominent black studies professors including Cornel West, who left after a falling out with university president.

Last year’s comments on women and science grew into a broader discussion of Summers’ management style, which some considered brusque and even bullying.

They also prompted a 218-185

The letter naming Haniyeh, in addition to the official appointment, was a one-page summary of Abbas’ political positions, according to Abbas aides who spoke on condition of anonymity because they are not authorized to give details.

Abbas has said the Hamas-led government must accept the agreements made by previous governments — including interim peace accords with Israel and the interna-

tionally backed “road map” plan for a Palestinian state.

Haniyeh was noncommittal. “We will study it, and God willing, we will answer soon to Abu Mazen [Abbas], God willing,” he said.

Hamas ideology does not recognize a Jewish state in the Middle East, and the militant group has sent dozens of suicide bombers into Israel. Since the election, Hamas has rebuffed demands from Israel, the U.S., the United Nations and Europe to recognize Israel and renounce violence.

Haniyeh has five weeks to form a cabinet, and he began holding talks with several small factions after the Hamas-dominated parliament took office Saturday. A relative moderate by Hamas standards and a skilled negotiator, Haniyeh said he wants to bring Fatah into his government.

“I think the room for agreement with Fatah is large,” he said, “and we hope to reach a formula through which we can form a national unity government.” So far Fatah has refused.

The 46-year-old Haniyeh also said it was “premature” to discuss incorporating the Hamas military wing into Palestinian security services.

Hamas’ rise to power has badly damaged chances of renewing peace negotiations. Israel refuses to deal with the group until it renounces violence and recognizes the Jewish state.

## Bush announces Arab company to control six U.S. seaports

By BEN FELLER  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush said Tuesday that a deal allowing an Arab company to take over six major U.S. seaports should go forward and that he would veto any congressional effort to stop it.

The Senate’s Republican leader had promised just such an effort a few hours earlier, and the House’s top Republican called for “an immediate moratorium” on the deal.

“After careful review by our government, I believe the transaction ought to go forward,” Bush told reporters who had traveled with him on Air Force One to Washington. “I want those who are questioning it to step up and explain why all of a sudden a Middle Eastern company is held to a different standard than a Great British company. I am trying to conduct foreign policy now by saying to the people of the world, ‘We’ll treat you fairly.’”

Bush took the rare step of calling reporters to his conference room on the plane after returning from a speech in Colorado, addressing a controversy that is becoming a major headache for the White House. He said the seaports arrangement had been extensively examined by the administration and was “a legitimate deal that will not jeopardize the security of the country.”

Earlier, Senate Republican Leader Bill Frist urged the administration to reconsider its decision to allow the transaction, under which a British company that has been running six U.S. ports would be acquired by Dubai Ports World, a state-owned business in the United Arab Emirates. Frist said he’d introduce a bill to delay the deal if the administration doesn’t do so on its own.

The British company, Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Co., runs major commercial operations at ports in Baltimore, Miami, New Jersey, New Orleans, New York and Philadelphia.

“The decision to finalize this deal should be put on hold until the administration conducts a more extensive review of this matter,” said Frist, R-Tenn. “If the administration cannot delay this process, I plan on introducing legislation to ensure that the deal is placed on hold until this decision gets a more thorough review.”

Frist, who spoke to reporters in Long Beach, Calif., where he was on a fact-finding tour on port security and immigration issues, said he doesn’t oppose foreign ownership, “but my main concern is national security.”

House Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., joined Frist, saying the administration needed to “conduct a more thorough review.” Without offering details, Hastert said in a letter to Bush that “this proposal may require additional congressional action in order to ensure that we are

protecting Americans at home.”

Other members of Bush’s party also reacted critically. Maryland Gov. Robert Ehrlich, during a tour of Baltimore’s port on Tuesday, called the deal an “overly secretive process at the federal level.”

But Bush, who has yet to veto a bill in more than five years in office, said sternly he would not back down.

“They ought to listen to what

I have to say about this. They’ll look at the facts and understand the consequences of what they’re going to do,” he said. “But if they pass a law, I’ll deal with it with a veto.”

In a sign of how volatile the issue has become in the uneasy climate after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, Bush pressed the topic yet again immediately upon his return to the White House, to

make sure his position would be on camera as well.

“This is a company that has played by the rules, has been cooperative with the United States, from a country that’s an ally on the war on terror, and it would send a terrible signal to friends and allies not to let this transaction go through,” the president said after emerging from his helicopter on the South Lawn.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

EDITORIAL



Prevent a Villa uproar

The University's handling of the Villa Spelman situation has been sloppy. When director Walter Stevens heard the news on Feb. 14, he resigned in disgust. Other administrators at the Villa, including Administrative Secretary Laura di Pofi and Undergraduate Program Coordinator Giuditta Viceconte, have expressed dismay that the University concealed its intentions from them. Overall, the central administrators have exhibited a remarkable lack of transparency. The administration should have discussed its plans with leaders at Villa Spelman to solicit opinions and suggestions on how to proceed.

Students who advocate saving the Villa plan to demonstrate at the next meeting of the Board of Trustees on March 1, where the trustees will decide the budget for the upcoming year. It's a shame that the problem has come to this point, where students feel so unable to express their opinions to administrators through established routes that they must take stronger action in protest.

Administrators are too busy to meet individually with all the students who want to share their views on Villa Spelman. However, there are many students who want to express their views about this issue. Turning these students down isn't the answer. Removing the Villa from our study abroad system and reinvesting the money into Homewood is a major move that deserves input from all levels of the University.

Dean Adam Falk should immediately set up a

forum through which students and faculty can voice their opinions and concerns about the future of the Villa Spelman, providing a medium for communication with alums of the Villa as well as faculty in the Romance Languages department. A forum could lend significant insight on what students want for Villa Spelman and study abroad programs in general. It would also give the administration a chance to explain their choices and actions to a group of individuals that currently feels ignored, thus mending relations with students who feel alienated by the University's secrecy.

The administration should move quickly so that students and faculty can reach an accord before the March 1 trustees' meeting. Even if the University is set on selling the Villa, it is still worth soliciting the views of those who participate in the program to determine its next incarnation.

Further, the administration needs to be sure to do a better job communicating with its branches abroad. The decision to sell Villa Spelman affects the lives and livelihoods of dozens of Hopkins faculty and staff in Italy. These people only found out about the plans last week through second-hand sources. The fact that the director and senior staff of the Villa were all unaware of any plans to sell the Villa reflects poorly on our administration's concern for the wellbeing of the men and women who dedicate themselves to educating Hopkins students abroad.

Villa Spelman sale denies unique experience

I had a dream. It dates back to when I, a college student in Firenze, got the extraordinary opportunity to spend a semester at a university in the US. That was the experience of my life; that was what made me the person I am now. After four months spent as an international student in New Jersey, I realized how lucky I had been. I felt an urge to share my experience with young people, to grant other students this wonderful experience of a lifetime — one that you do not find in books.

Those who know me — my boss, colleagues, students and faculty — know how dedicated I am. They know how hard my colleagues and I have worked every single semester and how passionately committed we are to the program: to make it start, to make it work and to make it grow notwithstanding strict budgets and obstacles.

You may then imagine how I am feeling recently: extremely concerned about my future, more and more unclear as days pass by and no formal announcement is directly made to the Villa staff and, at this point, disappointed. The 10 students who are spending their semester in Florence are my joy and consolation. My commitment is to bring this semester to its customary successful close.

Giuditta Viceconte  
Undergraduate Program  
Coordinator — Villa Spelman

about the Senior Gift.

The gift is not chosen by a select committee. All seniors were asked through e-mail to join the Campaign. Those who joined first, including myself, have been seeking feedback from students. Anyone like Emilie who has an opinion should join the group!

This year allows people with different interests to contribute in the way that is the meaningful for them. One aspect of the Hopkins Fund is providing scholarships for students from Baltimore. Blue Jays Unlimited is a source of school unity in an otherwise stressful environment. There are many demands for money at Hopkins. Hopkins subsidizes Senior Week as much as possible given other needs. Senior Week has always drawn funds from previous seniors to create unity in future classes.

The Senior Gift is meant to be a source of unified action on the part of the senior class, not a divisive force. I would encourage everyone to respect the decisions of their classmates. We do not know what impact one organization has had on another students' life. Instead of judging, we should be happy that students are giving back to the community in a way that is meaningful to them.

Courtenay Lewis  
Marketing and Publicity Chair

Cosmetic surgery research crucial to maintain

Your article ("When cosmetic

ic surgery goes too far," Feb. 17) brings attention to many misrepresented issues involving cosmetic surgery and the media. It is unfortunate that the general public is subjected to the "diluted and misconstrued" image of cosmetic surgery portrayed and discussed in such a cavalier fashion. And, while your research provided insight into the real potential for discomfort, risks and complications associated with plastic surgery, it is lacking for information about the typical patient who pursues consultation for cosmetic surgery in the real world.

Cosmetic surgery, like any other surgical procedure, carries risks that are explained, discussed and carefully considered by the surgeon and patient. There are many different options for treatment, some of which may be less invasive and provide similarly good results. Most patients have researched their options and become quite educated about the choices they make. The risks of various procedures, including discomfort and recovery time, are weighed against the benefits each individual hopes to achieve. The vast majority of patients attain very positive results.

I strongly support your suggestion to look beyond the media for information on these matters and would welcome you to do so. Perhaps a follow up article that includes facts and opinions from surgeons and patients would be helpful.

Craig A. Vander Kolk  
Professor of Plastic Surgery,  
Johns Hopkins  
Director, Johns Hopkins  
Cosmetic Center

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The Johns Hopkins News-Letter welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should not exceed 250 words. Letters must be delivered to the Gatehouse by Tuesday at 7 p.m. or emailed to [News.Letter@jhu.edu](mailto:News.Letter@jhu.edu) for inclusion in that Thursday's issue. All letters received become property of the News-Letter and can not be returned. The News-Letter reserves the right to edit for space, grammar and clarity. Letters must include the name, address and telephone number of the author. Only one author's name may be included. Groups, teams and other organizations may not submit letters, only individuals. The News-Letter reserves the right to limit the number of letters printed.

Don't Spring it on them

Spring Fair's recent announcement that the weekend-long event will be centralized around the Beach and will be held on a temporarily closed-off N. Charles Street can be greeted with nothing but one word in the minds' of Hopkins students: awesome. Spring Fair has consistently been one of the largest events to occur on campus every year, but it has suffered slightly from a poor location in recent years. Traditionally housed in the Lower Quad and the Garland parking lot, Spring Fair used to be something that students had to make an effort to attend, trekking from the AMRs, Wolman and McCoy, even as far as North Calvert and University Parkway. A student could hypothetically go the entire weekend without even knowing the fair had taken place. While popular and generally enjoyed, the distance was never that favorable for students living east and north of campus. Except for the occasional volleyball or cricket game, the Upper and Lower Quads are generally vacant on weekends, and so it was a bit of a stretch to convince students to spend time there.

The movement to North Charles will undoubtedly be a huge step in bringing the events to a truly public and central location. Now that daytime entertainment will be hosted on the Beach, hopefully it will get more coverage and not suffer from poor acoustics the way it did when situated on the Lower Quad. More importantly, the switch to a more frequented area will lead to a greater sense of unity among the student body

and — if we're lucky — with the wider Charles Village community. Now a good portion of students will be able to easily commute back and forth from the event, and for many it will be too hard to stop and appreciate the revelry.

With such high hopes for the weekend, it is imperative that Spring Fair works very closely with the University's representatives to the surrounding community to ensure that no technicalities force relocation to a less desirable position. This possibility must be addressed immediately, as City Councilwoman Mary Pat Clarke — a resident of Charles Village — has commented that she would be willing to appeal for a relocation of the festival if an appropriate level of coordination does not take place. The fact that a majority of the community was not properly informed of the proposed closing of Charles Street needs to be rectified; the new location of Spring Fair asks quite a bit of local residents. Cars that park along North Charles will inevitably spill over into residential neighborhoods. Bus routes will need detours, which will understandably cause strain on residents. Spring Fair, in partnership with administrators like Director of Community Affairs Salem Reiner, must run an efficient campaign to inform the community about the closing of Charles in whatever way possible, be it through flyers or literally going door-to-door. With the use of North Charles, Spring Fair has doubled its responsibilities: It must run smoothly, and with careful regard for the fragile relationship with our next-door neighbors.

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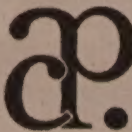
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Business hours are Mondays through Fridays, 1-5 p.m. The deadline for advertisements is 5 p.m. on the Tuesday before the Thursday of publication. Subscriptions are available to our readers for \$35 per semester, \$70 for the full academic year. The total circulation to the local campuses of Johns Hopkins (Homewood, Medical School and Hospital, Peabody, Downtown Center), area colleges and the greater Baltimore region is 6,200.

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# OPINIONS

## At Hopkins, political demonstrations falter

Though it all seems far in the past, there were times when student protesters stood on the frontlines of history's greatest battles. In the twilight of the 19th century, Russian campuses rose up against the incompetence of a power-mad tsarist state; in the 1960s, American undergrads attacked both social inequality and the mendaciously marketed quagmire campaign that was Vietnam; and in the late 1980s, tens of thousands of Chinese students agitated for democratic reforms. I can't excuse the radical politics that often grew out of these movements, nor can I proclaim them ultimately successful. At the very least, though, those students were unafraid to take to the quads and the streets against the social injustices their generations witnessed.

Going by today's headlines — government corruption, assaults on civil liberties, and yet another mendaciously-marketed quagmire of a war — the time should be ripe for another round of campus discontent. In any other period, this might be a moment for fearlessness. Yet, at Hopkins and every other American university, my era seems much more comfortable with farce.

It's not just that the protest-prone '60s counterculture has been irrevocably demonized: thorough trepidation and a focus on fringe issues now mark student activism of all stripes. Campus liberals, who would have once braved police bru-

tality and nights in jail for their ideals, now merely flock to Shriver Hall, clap for Howard Zinn or Michael Moore and go home, while conservatives slip ever farther away from the rebelliousness that would give their doctrines a real intellectual kick. Wholesale recklessness is by no means on my agenda, but is it really so hard for modern students to put up a coherent movement against broader political controversies?

To answer that, let's take a look at the most notable Hopkins protests of recent history. To start, there was the fall 2004 protest held outside the Nichols House, an event that was supposed to call attention to issues of campus security and dorm safety. Instead, roughly 75 students were treated to not just hot chocolate from President Brody (my, what an adversary!) but had the thrill of participating in an undeniable exercise in futility, namely because a full roster of security improvements had already been proposed. Any discussion of substantial issues like violent crime in Baltimore was quickly drowned out by bizarre complaints concerning things like the wages of Hopkins employees and President Brody's own salary.

Then, last fall, the anti-war movement rolled into town. It's quite sad that a school as liberal as Hopkins hasn't the

nerve to protest current political conditions without loads of external prompting, unless you discount one middle-aged man who wandered on campus to sell anti-Bush T-shirts last spring.

Mercifully, autumn's two pacifist features, Gold Star mother Cindy Sheehan's "Bring Them Home Now" tour and the "Eyes Wide Open" installation, didn't open the way to Kent State-style violence. Yet they were also very, very contrived.

Student protests once left a deep impact not because they fell back on a liberal activist core but rather because they were spontaneous and student-driven. Sheehan's Shriver Hall speech may have been extreme, and Eyes Wide open may have channeled considerable indignation, but now that these two events have fled away, about the only place in Hopkins where you can find reliable assaults on the Iraq campaign is in campus journalism.

What about Katrina or Darfur or Guantánamo Bay? We have gotten to the point where causes can be reduced to a few rubber wristbands and charity checks, but where the kind of earth-shaking demonstrations and barrages of editorial letters that could actually get something accomplished are taboo. Indeed, the only issue that draws students

out in droves anymore is, you guessed it, abortion. But the dogmatism of hundreds of thousands of people that show up either at the March for Life or its pro-choice counterparts verges on caricature.

On one hand, pro-life students wheel out twisted comparisons between *Roe v. Wade* and the start of the Holocaust; on the other, their opponents portray abortion as a fundamental and productive civil right, not the unfortunate result of social injustice that it really is.

I am waiting to see what, if anything, will be this era's, or this campus' cause. Maybe it's that the romantic impulse to protest has turned into the practical, but infinitely less effective, impulse to sell baked goods and pass out flyers on the Breezeway. Maybe the danger to one's reputation and prospects are deemed too high, or maybe such issues as corruption, genocide and state-sanctioned torture simply don't seem to warrant concern.

Few things are more unlikely than a real anti-war or even pro-war demonstration on the Upper Quad, or even a well-deserved student boycott of Hopkins' infamously bad dining facilities. But history, in the end, will remember us as another generation of students that was afraid to strive for anything but its own complacency.

—Patrick Kennedy is a sophomore history of art and Writing Seminars major from Watchung, N.J.

Patrick Kennedy  
*Opposition, Inc.*

## In defense of Dick: it's just an accident

When I first read about Dick Cheney's hunting mishap, I was, as a devout liberal, giddy with glee and anticipation. Democrats were going to have a field day. Visions of scathing headlines and NRA protests danced in my head. It was a phantasmagoria of left-wing delight. In critical condition? How many pellets? A heart attack? I watched as the story moved to the front page of every major newspaper, followed by editorials and sidebars and graphics.

Naomi Yamate  
*Garland*  
*Guest Column*

And the jokes. The cartoons and the monologues! I played an online hunting game in which the player (as Cheney) tries to aim for the quail but can only hit on looking hunters. The *Seattle Times* ran an article exclusively covering all the Cheney hunting jokes that had sprung up ("Duck: Here Come the Cheney Jokes!"). It was Abramoff, Iraq, DeLay and Katrina all rolled into one, and funny.

But let's be serious. This is, after all, a grown-up subject to be handled in a grown-up manner, no? And in this light it turns out that the whole fiasco is nothing more than a terrible, tragic, accident. It is not an indicative incident, it is not a "sign," and it has nothing to do with politics. It is a mistake. Cheney's inability to aim a rifle has nothing to do with his ability to perform his duties as vice president.

There have been a number of attempts to divert attention from the true irrelevance of the story, highlighting the length of time the White House took to report the incident, Cheney's secretive nature and even the possibility that he had been intoxicated at the time of the accident. While these concerns may be genuine and might even rightfully point to unsound decisions on the vice president's part, repetition of the same few facts and comments points more towards the simple and apolitical nature of the story than anything else.

The hunting accident is, in fact, so apolitical that Bush and Cheney critics need to watch their strategic use of the story. Aggressively utilizing a story that isn't entirely relevant to actual politics may chip away at their credibility and diminish the validity of future claims.

Liberals, or anyone, really, can make the strongest arguments by demonstrating fairness, reason and clear intentions in their criticisms of the Bush administration. They do not approve of unwarranted wire tapping because it violates fundamental constitutional rights of the American people, which they feel obligated to protect. They do not like the new Medicare plan because it doesn't provide the most cost-efficient, accessible or effective health care to American seniors, and they think they can do better.

But Cheney's quail hunting fiasco? Let's do a conservative analysis of the situation and assume that at the time of the accident, he was at least moderately intoxicated and not being very careful. I'll consider it a safe consensus that hunting while drunk and without caution is an irresponsible decision that demonstrates a lack of foresight. But does this not smack of another politician who made a certain irresponsible decision in the Oval Office, a decision that led to a media frenzy and, ultimately, impeachment? Liberals need to remember that we can tolerate a drunken quail hunter in the White House about as much as we can tolerate an adulterer. Criticize Cheney for his secretive nature and suspicious 18-hour waiting period, but don't forget that Clinton was impeached not for his extramarital affair, but for lying about it.

I'm not saying that Clinton wasn't a fabulous president. He lied about his "sexual affairs" because they were very private and painful, not because he was a poor diplomat or an incompetent leader. Likewise, Cheney is probably going through a very difficult time in dealing with the fact that he mistakenly shot his good friend. He may be a fantastic vice president or a hopelessly pathetic one, but we're certainly not going to find the answer in the details of a truly tragic event that bears no relevance or relationship to his performance in the White House.

—Naomi Yamate Garland is a junior public health major from Seattle, Wa.

## In focus: The Muslim cartoon controversy

### Religion is inherently violent

There is probably no one more pleased with the fallout from the Mohammed cartoons than Flemming Rose, cultural editor of *Jyllands-Posten*, the conservative Danish newspaper in which the cartoons were initially printed. Last September, Rose solicited 12 cartoons depicting Mohammed, the prophet and father of Islam. Since then, the Muslim world has reacted with the kind of hostility and violence that, sadly, we have come to expect.

*Jyllands-Posten* is no doubt benefiting from the PR windfall but can also revel in the knowledge that their point has, largely, been proven. Rose hoped to demonstrate that self-censorship as a result of fear of reprisal from Muslim extremists was preventing journalists from speaking their minds about Islam. That political correctness had trumped freedom of expression.

The violent response in the Muslim world and repeated calls for the deaths of the cartoonists from influential quarters indicate that Rose and his newspaper were, for better or worse, correct. They claimed that Muslims were unwilling to accept the viability of free expression and, through the particular content of the drawings, that Muslims have an alarming tendency toward violence. Both claims have been thoroughly vindicated.

Protests, both peaceful and otherwise, have erupted wherever there are Muslims. Scores of people in countries across the Middle East have been killed. The buildings housing the Danish consulates in Lebanon and Syria were each burned to the ground. The protests have been extremely widespread; one in Peshawar, Pakistan attracted some 70,000 individuals, mostly young males. Several Arab governments have placed official sanctions on Danish goods and called for boycotts. And, if all that wasn't bad enough, Iran has proven that the United States has no monopoly on petty vengeance by officially changing the name of Danish pastries to that of a flower named for Mohammed (see: freedom fries).

It is time that those of us beholden to the demands of political correctness begin to take a more objective view of what is happening in the Muslim world. Since that fateful September day, the official American stance has toed the line on Islamic extremism by at once calling for its eradication and providing the disclaimer that its adherents are in the minority.

Statistically, this is undoubtedly true. There are over a billion Muslims in the world, the majority of whom is peaceful. Yet, at a certain point, the raw numbers cease to matter.

It is beyond dispute that the loudest voices in the Muslim world have consistently condemned this act of free speech by their government officials, religious leaders, business leaders (who have ceased stocking and importing Danish goods), intellectuals



MATT HANSEN/NEWS-LETTER

and others with the ability to shape public opinion. Newspapers have perversely printed and reprinted some or all of the drawings in an obvious attempt to stir up extremist sympathies among their readership. Were they truly insulted they would have refrained from printing these images that so powerfully offend Muslims.

We must finally admit that Islam is not a religion of peace as many have suggested so as not to appear bigoted. It is well that all people realize this not only so that we may have an unvarnished discourse on the nature of Islam, but also religion generally, for no religion, no matter how sedate its followers may generally be, can be accurately characterized as one "of peace." Even Buddhists have been at war for much of the twentieth century with the Hindu Tamil minority in Sri Lanka.

Islam, through its seemingly inherent violence, should be a window onto the true purpose of religion now and throughout history. Religions exist as political mechanism to exert control over great masses of people who might otherwise persist bereft of direction. Even the seemingly more acceptable idea of personal spirituality is still, to a degree, a self-imposed constriction.

Religions and their tenets were crafted by men — women should not feel implicated in these horrors for they were rarely afforded the legitimacy needed to concoct any theisms — for their own benefit. Violence, be it physical, as characterized most obviously today by Islam and yesterday by Christianity, or cognitive, as exhibited by other religions, is hardly a perversion of faith. Religions are not necessarily violent, but they seek, above all, to control, which can lead to violence.

I would not be so bold as to suggest that religions have not also provided humanity with much good, but I think it behooves us to consider the true nature of religiosity as a tool of politics. Thanks to the rapidity of communication and the power of our weapons, the world today is more prone to disastrous errors in judgment than ever before. Now more than ever we must decide whether to continue to allow religious zeal to shape our vital interests and diminish our individual freedom.

—Simon Waxman is a junior international studies major from Newton, Mass.

Simon Waxman  
*Independent Angles*

### Response highlights contradictions in liberals' free speech views

When the left claims that civil libertarianism is their greatest cause and struggle, it is funny to see them crack when the speech is expressed in its freest form. The Danish cartoon controversy could not be a greater example, as many liberals who supposedly followed free-speech views now cower when the speech has something to do with radical Islam.

Controversy has erupted in the Muslim community about cartoon portrayals of Mohammed that were recently solicited and printed by the Danish newspaper *Jyllands-Posten*. Most of these cartoons are pretty innocuous, while admittedly others have a darker satirical twist.

The uproar over the cartoons in the Muslim world has been tremendous. On Sunday, a Pakistani cleric issued a \$1 million bounty on the cartoonists involved in this controversy. Some other clerics from Saudi Arabia produced fake cartoons of a pedophilic Mohammed and other incendiary depictions to elicit more Islamic ire. Muslims have called for Danish boycotts as well as censorship of the cartoons.

Unfortunately, the response from the media in Europe and in the U.S. has been utterly pathetic. For instance, CNN defended their decision not to print the cartoons, claiming its role is to cover the controversy but not to add fuel to the fire. Of course, CNN gleefully posted new Abu Ghraib photos in "the spirit of not adding fuel to the fire except when it portrays Uncle Sam in a bad light." Likewise, when CNN decided to post Arab caricatures of a curly-haired man with a Star of David tattoo holding a parrot with the face of George Bush, this example of the "Jew-run U.S. government" was not at all offensive.

The French response to the cartoons was as expected: particularly feckless and pathetic. Chirac stated that he "condemned any overt provocation" of religion and that "freedom of expression must be exercised with a spirit of responsibility." For a president who proudly lauds much of the philosophy of his beloved Frenchmen, it would be great if he demonstrate an ability to un-

derstand it or at least show the fortitude and gumption to back up the claim.

When liberals complain about fundamentalism, they discuss the towering presence of Pat Robertson as if he were the greatest threat to civil liberties in the world today. Their refusal to see the threat that radical Islam poses to the very idea of free speech is a remarkable commentary on how little they truly care about it. Granted, even as a Christian myself the man irritates me plenty, but unless I see Christians load up their church vans and shotguns headed off to Venezuela, he doesn't hold quite hold the dramatic sway of an imam telling his minions to crash planes into New York skyscrapers.

Unfortunately, that's the problem with liberals today: It is difficult to find any shred of true liberalism in their ideology. While I understand the ACLU to be an American organization, the fact that they are not as up in arms over this free speech controversy tells me civil liberties might not always be their fondest interest. The word "liberal" has become a misnomer. The left has always utilized free speech laws whenever they needed to portray Christ as a homosexual, or when they needed to soliloquize about their vaginas, so one would think something like this would just be another day at the park.

My Muslim friend made the interesting point that there really should be no uproar about this issue. He noted that it would be a much more significant issue had a Muslim created these cartoons. Voltaire was not made famous for saying, "I disagree with what you say, but I'll defend to death your right to say it, unless people get angry and start rioting."

In the same sense, the right to free speech is not manifest by distilling statements into the unobjectionable and agreeable. Thus the strength of this right predicates itself on the protection of even the most offensive or unpopular of statements. While criticism of the cartoons themselves is indeed acceptable, and I cannot condone all of the cartoons, we as a liberal society must not acquiesce and forfeit this right lest we desire to deem all speech meaningless and vapid.

—Kane Kim is a junior economics major from Englewood Cliffs, N.J.

Kane Kim  
*Intelligently Designed*



# SCIENCE

## Famed cardiologist shares insights

Hopkins physician gives talk on applications of stem cells in cardiology as part of the Voyage and Discovery Lecture Series

By **STEPHEN BERGER**  
The Johns Hopkins News-Letter

Dr. David Kass, a researcher who describes his wide-ranging career as "a little more schizophrenic than most," spoke at the Homewood campus last Wednesday as part of the ongoing Voyage and Discovery Lecture Series.

Kass discussed four of his research projects during an hour-long talk entitled "Making failing hearts better with pacemakers, heart socks and Viagra." He emphasized the ongoing dialogue between clinical experience and laboratory work, as well as some of the more interesting and unexpected directions research can take.

One project investigated a paradox in the way blood vessels function. Blood pressure increases with age due to the hardening of arterial walls, so the heart has to work harder to pump less blood. But a similar increase in blood pressure is normal in younger people when they exercise.

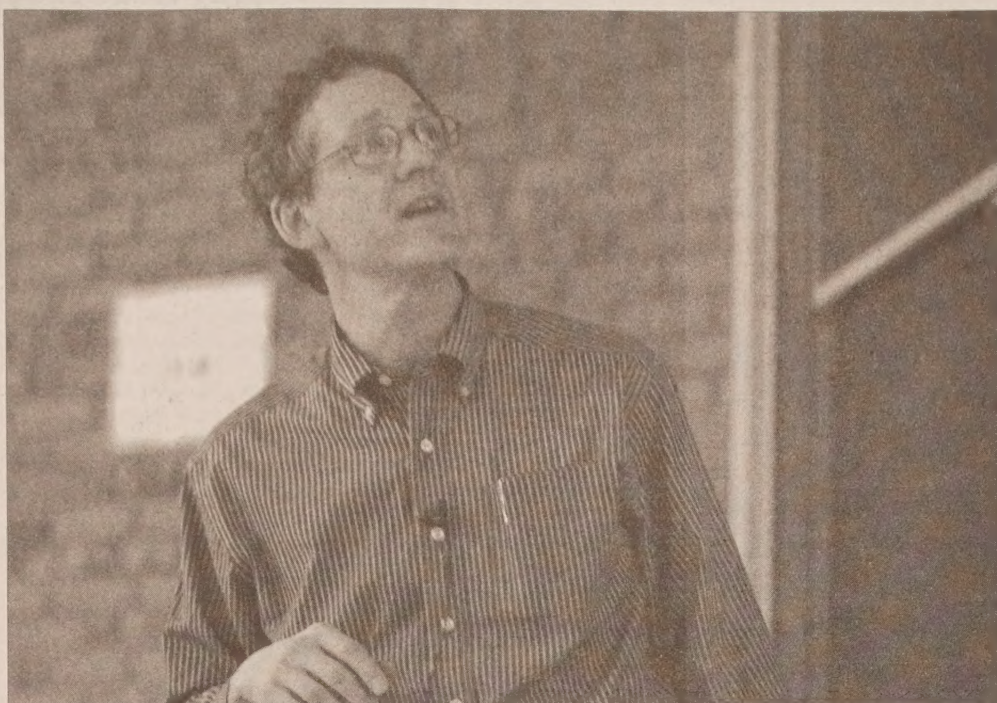
Using a computer-controlled system with either a stiff or flexible tube mimicking an artery, Kass' group was able to examine the physical forces placed on the arterial wall in older and younger individuals. Their model has led to the identification of biological signals that might one day be used to make older vessels behave like young ones.

Next Kass talked about treatments for expanded or dilated hearts, a common occurrence in individuals with heart failure. The heart dilates to compensate for its decreased ability to pump, forcing it to work even harder.

A surgical procedure called cardiomyoplasty can be used to remedy the problems associated with heart dilation. A surgeon removes a piece of muscle from the patient's back and then wraps it around the heart. An implanted pacemaker causes the muscle to contract along with the heart.

Unfortunately, this procedure is difficult and not very effective, as studies by Kass and others have shown. Working in part from a suggestion Kass published in an article about cardiomyoplasty, medical researchers developed the heart sock as a substitute for more invasive surgery.

The heart sock, formally called a cardiac assist device, wraps around the heart to prevent it from excessive expansion. But instead of being made of muscle, the heart sock is fabricated from a flexible synthetic polymer.



MARK MEHLINGER/NEWS-LETTER

After addressing various clinical issues throughout his lecture, Kass answered questions from the audience in Mudd Hall.

Preliminary studies suggest the heart sock could be an effective way to combat cardiac dilation safely.

A third research program attempts to correct variations in the natural rhythm of the heart. In the normal heart, an electrical impulse causes the two ventricles to contract simultaneously, emptying the blood into the atria below. But in some individuals with asynchronous electrical signaling, the ventricles fail to contract simultaneously.

A research team at Hopkins led by then-faculty member Dr. Elias Zerhouni used specialized MRI to image these hearts. European researchers then developed a treatment called biventricular pacing to correct the condition, which Kass tested in the United States in 1998.

In biventricular pacing, small electrodes are placed in each ventricle, and a battery pack is implanted in the chest or abdomen. Unlike a typical pacemaker, which only signals occasionally, the biventricular pacers must signal for every contraction of the heart to keep the muscle in rhythm.

The final part of Kass' talk was devoted to Viagra and its effects on the heart. Viagra, or sildenafil, was originally developed to treat angina, a kind of heart pain associated with constricted coronary arteries, but it is more famous as a cure for erectile dysfunction. The drug creates an increase in

cGMP, a cellular messenger that triggers dilation of blood vessels, among other things.

Although initial studies suggested Viagra had no effect on the heart, further trials have shown a link between the drug and lower pulmonary blood pressures. Kass' lab has published a series of studies linking sildenafil to a decrease in heart's response to certain kinds of nervous stimulation. This knowledge may lead to improved use of sildenafil to treat pulmonary hypertension and other conditions.

Student reaction to the talk was enthusiastic. Freshman Neil Neumann explained, "I liked how he could take an idea and go in new directions with it. He was very ingenious in working with new discoveries."

Another freshman, Jason Liebowitz, commented, "I thought it was interesting that he had such a strong engineering background, but then he was able to apply it to medical research." He continued, "This is exactly why I wanted to come to Hopkins, to hear speakers like this."

Francesca Dolendo, one of the organizers of the lecture series, was equally pleased. "We thought it was pretty comprehensive but still easy for people to understand."

Kass enjoys the fact that his research often leads him to unexpected places. "It's very free-wheeling. It's very creative. You get to stare at something and

scratch your head and figure out what's going on. And you get to work on something that might make people feel better. How often do you get to do that?"

Kass received his undergraduate degree in engineering and applied physics from Harvard and then went to medical school at Yale. He is the Abraham and Virginia Weiss Professor of Cardiology and a professor of medicine and biomedical engineering at Hopkins.

The Voyage and Discovery Lecture Series invites researchers from around Johns Hopkins to speak to undergraduates during the first few weeks of the spring semester. The final talk of the series features Dr. Patrick Byrne, who will speak about reconstructive surgery on March 2 at 7:30 p.m. in Mudd Hall.

## Reducing your impact on the environment

Have you ever paused to consider the amount of resources needed to sustain your day-to-day activities? How many gallons of gas, for example, were needed to bring you that morning cup of coffee, or how much of a tree was used to make the newspaper you're reading right now? In our overwhelmingly material world we often take for granted the availability of everyday items without considering the energy, materials and labor that went into their production and distribution.

While many people in the world face serious shortages of the basic necessities like food, water and shelter, here in the United States we are fortunate enough to be able to take these things for granted. Nevertheless, this does not mean we should ignore the consequences of our consumptive habits.

One way to understand the impact of our daily lives is by measuring our ecological footprints. This "ecological accounting" tool measures the area of biologically productive land and water needed to supply the resources and assimilate the wastes of one's day-to-day life and puts into perspective the resources needed to sustain our way of life.

Individual footprint size is computed using the answers to a simple lifestyle survey that asks questions related to your food consumption, living situation, transportation and other goods and services you use. The average American citizen requires 24 acres of biologically productive land,

while globally there are only 4.5 biologically productive acres per person. Think about that one.

Most of us without even realizing it are perpetuating this culture of excess. But by choosing to be conscious of the consequences of otherwise mundane behaviors like throwing away soda cans or leaving the water running, each of us can have an effect, however minute on reducing our societal ecological footprint.

So what can you do to reduce the size of your ecological footprint? Here are five simple ways.

1. **Recycle!** Bottles, cans, paper, cardboard, computers, cell phones, batteries, plastic bags. If you have questions about recycling on campus visit <http://www.jhu.edu/~recycle> or call (410) 516-5592.
2. **Eat less meat.** It takes about twice the resources (measured

in land area) to produce meat products than to produce agricultural-based food.

3. **Buy green.** Whenever possible, purchase environmentally-friendly products such as recycled paper products or fluorescent light bulbs.
4. **Compost kitchen waste.** Garbage that is contaminated with food wastes is much easier to sort and recycle and doesn't produce methane gases when stored in a landfill.

5. **Drive a fuel-efficient vehicle.** Also reduce the amount that you drive by walking, biking or using public transportation.

To calculate the size of your ecological footprint, go to <http://www.ecofoot.org>.

**Paul Furlong**  
*Environmental Agenda*

## Symposium focuses on student health issues

By **EITAN FRIEDMAN**  
The Johns Hopkins News-Letter

The Red Cross sponsored the second health symposium of the year this past Wednesday, Feb. 15.

While the first symposium in September focused on sleep deprivation, nutrition, AIDS, STDs and fitness basics, the themes addressed in the recent lecture included food allergies, smoking, asthma and sports medicine.

Various specialists lectured the students on these vital topics for college students.

The goal of the health symposiums is to better educate the students on how to take care of themselves and stay healthy throughout their college careers.

Many students who are new to college life and the prospect of living on their own were able to benefit from these experiences.

During the first health symposium, four professionals volunteered to address the students.

Rebecca McDivitt, a nutritionist who works at the Hopkins Health and Wellness Center, discussed nutrition with the audience. She discussed how college students generally neglect physical activity. "Even though students may be under a great deal of stress, they always must make sure that they

eat the right types of food and exercise regularly," she stated.

The second speaker, Anne Rompalo, lectured the students on the dangers of AIDS and STDs. She currently works in the Department of Medicine at JHMI.

Agisi Makrodimitris, a physician's assistant at Union Memorial Hospital, taught the students fitness basics, such as the five components of fitness, aerobic endurance,

muscular strength and body flexibility. He said, "Methods to treat minor injuries are medication, stretching, limiting one's activity or seeing a doctor if the pain persists."

The fourth and final speaker of the

evening was Dr. David Neubauer, from Johns Hopkins at Bayview, who discussed the dangers of sleep deprivation. He taught the students that "receiving adequate sleep is essential to health."

The more recent health symposium had two speakers, the first of which was Dr. Edward Conner from the Asthma Center at Hopkins Hospital.

He discussed food allergies, smoking and asthma with the students. "Most food allergies are caused by tree nuts, peanuts, cow's milk, eggs, soy, fish and shellfish."

Dr. Edward told the students.

"Anaphylaxis is a reaction to a food allergy which makes a person have troubles breathing. Epinephrine can save your life if this ever occurs."

Edward made sure the students knew how to take the right precautions if they ever are diagnosed with a food allergy. "It is crucial that you read all of the labels on any prepared foods which you eat in order to avoid dangerous allergic reactions."

Concerning asthma, "Even though someone may have asthma, they are still able to enjoy any activity he or she wishes," Edward stated. "Secondhand smoke can strongly incite asthma symptoms occasionally."

The second speaker, Dr. William Howard, general surgeon and Director of Sports Medicine at Union Memorial Hospital, discussed sports medicine with the students.

He talked about the dangers of steroids, as well as the most efficient ways for the students to exercise. "Using steroids is extremely dangerous," Howard began, "They have never been sufficiently tested for safety, can cause permanent damage and can even kill you with one single dose."

Regarding exercise, "If you want to build up your muscle mass," Howard stated, "You should use large weights and do low repetitions. If you want toned muscles, you use low weights and do high repetitions."

The speakers at the symposia helped make students aware of the significance of fitness and health.

## A NEW TAKE ON CASUAL FRIDAY.



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# YOUR NEWS-LETTER

## your say

So you've always had your share of complaints about Hopkins. The food doesn't seem right, the classes are too hard, the people too intense. But if there is one thing you could change about Hopkins, what would it be?

"The food ... or the location."



**CHRISTINE BITTNER**  
Freshman, undecided

"I think we need more personal advising."



**SARAH ALLEN**  
Sophomore, international studies

"Replace the JHBroadcast system and use a Web site with a calendar on it instead, like other universities do."



**JOSHUA LERMAN**  
Sophomore, biomedical engineering

"We need a student center. M Level has become the 'social hub,' and that's sad."



**SHENG LI**  
Junior, international studies

"We need campus housing for all upperclassmen. Living far away makes them too lazy to interact with the campus. This takes a way a lot of the leadership they would provide."



**TONY SHEH**  
Senior, chemical and electrical engineering

— compiled by Natalie Baer

## Students find study abroad limited

By JESSICA REBARBER  
The Johns Hopkins News-Letter

Hopkins has always stressed the importance of studying abroad; however, the study abroad options are a little more convoluted and complicated than at first glance. In the past year, there have been significant changes to the study abroad policies of several departments.

### France

In particular, the French department has switched from endorsing several programs to supporting only two: Sciences-Po and the University of Tours.

The only way to receive credit from the department is to study in Tours for a semester or a year, or at Sciences-Po in Paris, for a year or under the five-year BA/MA program. For many, this came as a shock.

"While it may be a dream to live in a chateau for my spring semester abroad, nothing compares to Paris. I want to study abroad to

learn the language, but I want to study abroad and learn the culture (the city culture) more and what better place to do that than in Paris?

"I may love all of France, but my dreams have been to study in Paris since I took French in the sixth grade," sophomore Allie Schnidman said.

Others found the Tours program just their style. "Over the course of an understandably hectic beginning to the program, it seems all the pieces are coming together. It will be a great asset for all academic cultures of the school, and I can't wait to get started in the fall," sophomore Maura Lillis said.

### Italy

The announcement made last week to sell Villa Spelman in Florence, Italy was received with a definite negative reaction by both students and staff.

For sophomore Whitney Shaffer, who "came here for Villa Spelman" and was planning to

study there next spring, it was the "perfect opportunity" to immerse herself in Italian culture.

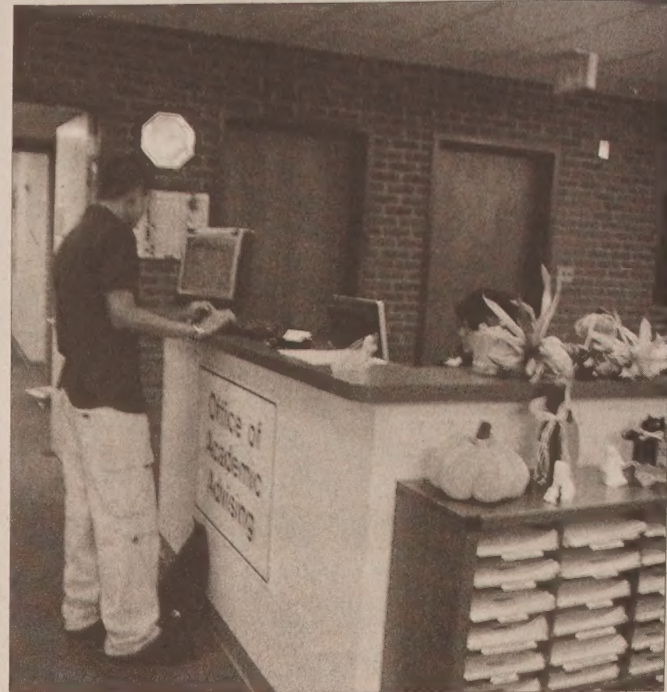
"The first hand experience of High Renaissance art in a closely knit community is not only a wonderful experience, but a unique one. The selling of the Villa in order to quell anger surrounding graduate stipends is only a short-term solution. Why sell the creator of so much long term good opinion to dampen dissent for such a short time?" said Shaffer.

Dr. Ruth Aranow, study abroad coordinator, was "sad" to hear about the proposed sale, but contends that "a lot of factors" went into the decision.

Once the flagship study abroad program of Hopkins, the Bologna program has been suffering through recent lack of enrollment and interest.

"The main problem is getting information to the students," Aranow said.

The Bologna applications are actually due at the end of this



MORGAN DUMONT/NEWS-LETTER

Students come to the Office of Academic Advising to begin their study abroad search.

week. Those interested should visit the website <http://www.jhu.edu/advising>.

### Planning It Out

The actual study abroad application process can be harrowing and extremely difficult. To begin the search, students are directed to Dr. Aranow's study abroad office hours (daily, from 3-4 p.m.), during which you fill out an information sheet.

Aranow then compiles a preliminary list of possible destinations, and students are usually given large notebooks to browse through.

After this, there are informational meetings with several programs, but attendance is completely voluntary. It is essential to be proactive in order to find the right program.

### Getting Credit

Many students also complain about Hopkins' stinginess when awarding credits from other schools.

If you go to a JHU-sponsored

program, you can take as many credits as you wish. For a non-Hopkins program, you can transfer up to 15 credits. For an independent study abroad program, you can only bring back three credits, regardless of how many it offers.

Aranow mentioned that credits are "only an issue for languages." This is mainly because Hopkins does not want students "to repeat what they have already done here." Make sure your program is pre-approved by your faculty adviser before you apply.

### Equal Opportunity

Aranow made it clear that everyone has the opportunity to study abroad. All Hopkins programs allow you to carry over financial aid, and all that is generally required is your faculty adviser's signature.

Engineers are also encouraged to go abroad, but be advised you'll need the dean of engineering's signature in addition to your adviser's.

## 4 Best Museums IN BALTIMORE

— compiled by Shiraz Rahim

### BALTIMORE MUSEUM OF ART

This one is a no-brainer. It's world-renowned and literally right in the campus' backyard. The museum is your typical art gallery, filled with pieces by some of the world's greatest painters and sculptors. The BMA's collection is internationally known as one of the best collections of modern and contemporary art with various exhibits on avant-garde artists and movements like cubism and expressionism. The museum contains several galleries devoted to international types of art ranging from African paintings to Asian sculptures and tribal masks, giving a look into different cultures most people typically do not see. To add to that, it also holds several concerts and special exhibits designed to give a more in-depth look at various aspects of art and art history, including an upcoming event entitled *The Art of Music*, which depicts the intricate relationship between music and painting with presentations of famous artists from around the U.S., Europe and Africa.



Hours: Wed. to Fri.: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Sat. to Sun.: 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Admission: Free with J-Card, \$10 otherwise  
Address: 10 Art Museum Dr.

### NATIONAL GREAT BLACKS IN WAX MUSEUM

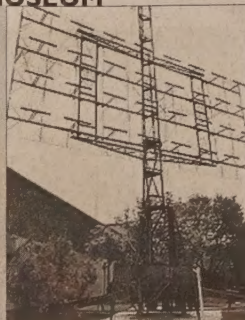


Hours: Tue. to Sat. 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sun. 12 p.m. to 6 p.m.  
Admission: \$8 with a student ID, \$9 otherwise  
Address: 1601 E. North Ave.

To go with Black History Month, this museum gives a powerful and interesting look into the history of African-Americans in the United States from pre-Civil War times to the present and contains over 100 wax figures and scenes depicting such topics as the role of African-American youth in today's world. The museum also offers informational lectures, dramatic presentations and a film series designed to further understand the history of African-Americans in America and Maryland and present African-American culture to the community. Some of the figures included in the exhibition: Harriet Tubman, Martin Luther King, Jr. and Hatshepsut (an ancient Egyptian queen).

### HISTORICAL ELECTRONICS MUSEUM

This one is for all the engineers. The HEM was established to share a collection of electronic equipment developed over the years for the defense of the U.S. The museum is reputed for its special collection of Air Force airborne radar systems and BOMARC missiles. Current exhibitions range from a space sensor gallery designed to show types of equipment used in orbital satellites and NASA missions, a Cold War gallery dedicated to the advancements in missile and tracking systems on both the U.S. and Russian fronts and a communications gallery detailing the advancements in phone technologies including the telegraph and the Bell telephone. The museum holds over 10,000 artifacts and will prove a delight for all those physics and IT fans.



Hours: Mon. to Fri. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Admission: Free  
Address: 1745 W. Nursery Rd., Linthicum

### SAIL BALTIMORE: VISITING SHIPS



Hours and admission depend on the type of ship being brought in and the type of event being hosted.  
<http://www.sailbaltimore.org>

Ever gone to the Inner Harbor and occasionally see one of those giant ships that looks like it's from *Pirates of the Caribbean*? Those ships are part of a new museum known as Sail Baltimore which brings various types of ships, ranging from 18th century sail ships to modern frigates used in the U.S. Coast Guard to the docks of Inner Harbor. Once aboard, visitors may tour the insides of each ship while learning about the countries and cultures from which the ships originate and gaining an understanding about navigational technology and maritime history. The organization has brought over 400 different ships from around the world to Baltimore's docks and occasionally provides benefits, fundraising events and other fun activities aboard their various vessels, such as dinners and short cruises.

16" Cheese Pizza \$7.50

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All Day Sunday



SPORTS

# Winter games should be left out in the cold

Here is a short list of Winter Olympic "sports" that have been broadcast on NBC and its 157 affiliate networks in the last two weeks: skeleton, nordic combined skiing, biathlon, short track speed skating, luge and curling. Say what you will about the political and cultural contributions of the Ancient Greeks, but you have to admit they had weird taste in winter sports.

Of course, I won't make the argument that the Summer Olympics are completely true to the spirit of the original games. It's tough to imagine a bunch of nude Mediterranean-looking guys getting together to play beach volleyball (hairy naked men jumping up and down, have fun getting that image out of your head).

But when the Olympic Games were resurrected in 1896, they had the right idea — getting different countries together to participate in a few sports (nine sports, to be precise) that everyone could agree on. Of course, more sports and many more countries needed to be added, but it was a start. Now, it seems that every four years, the term "Olympic athlete" carries a little less meaning. For example, why did they feel the need to add badminton as an Olympic sport in 1992? Were the table tennis players tired of getting their asses kicked in the Olympic Village?

But at least the Summer Games are widespread — in 2004, 202 nations were represented, which means that the Olympics appeals to more countries than the United Nations (or they're less picky about what counts as a country, whatever). So do we really need another games?

While the most recent Summer Olympics included 202 countries (or principalities, or fiefdoms, you know what I mean), there are only 80 participating in the 2006 Torino Games. And I bet at least half of them are in Scandinavia. It just doesn't seem like the Winter and Summer Olympics should have the same surname. It's like Michael and Marcus Vick.

Fans of the Winter Games all say the same thing to me: competing at the Olympics (whether Winter or "Real") takes so much athleticism, dedication and bravery. And I'm not denying that that is the case (except in the case of skeleton. And the luge. And bobsledding. And curling). I have a lot of respect for some of those athletes. But are the games really worth canceling *My Name is Earl* and *The Office* for? I think not.

When you think about the Olympics, you think about some of the most landmark moments in the history of sports: Jesse Owens getting four gold medals in Berlin in 1936, spitting in the face of Hitler's Aryan superiority propaganda; Hungary winning a bloody water polo match against the USSR in 1956 while their countrymen were losing a bloody insurgency against the Soviets; and the Dream Team making every other country in Barcelona look like a bad AAU team.

But what about the Winter Olympics? Other than the Miracle on Ice, what else has there been? Jamaica's bobsled team apparently made it once, but I'm not even sure if that really happened. There was Nancy Kerrigan taking silver in the Battle of Wounded Knee, but I think that mostly just reflects poorly on the arm strength of Tonya Harding's hired goon.

I've enjoyed watching a few of the events, namely men's hockey and women's curling (only because it's fun watching hot blonde girls push a broom). But last Thursday, the Games only garnered 15.8 million primetime viewers, putting them a good deal behind ABC's *Dancing With the Stars*, which got 18.3 million.

I'm sure plenty of people will begrudge me for writing this column, but the numbers don't lie. The American people (and by "people," I can only assume that I mean "women") are more interested in watching Jerry Rice's

moves than Sasha Cohen's. And it's not just the viewers who don't seem to care — it's the athletes.

For example, take Bode Miller, the highly-touted U.S. skier, who admitted on *60 Minutes* that he enjoys skiing drunk, saying, "You're putting your life at risk . . . It's like driving drunk, only there are no rules about it in skiing."

After four events, Miller has yet to win a medal. Or Lindsey Jacobellis, the American snowboarder who blew a large lead in a finals race after she wiped out — while performing a showboat move within sight of the finish line.

And let's not forget that basically every sport in the Winter Olympics completely excludes anyone of low economic standing. I doubt curling has much of a following in any developing countries — and there probably aren't many curling rinks in inner-city areas.

If these winter pseudo-athletes want to have an organized world championships, I say let them have one, if only to keep the Scandinavians happy (they're deadly with snowballs).

But calling the games the Olympics and giving them the requisite ludicrous coverage just seems like a futile attempt to dress them up as something they aren't — something meaningful.



Jason Farber  
*Sports of Sorts*

# Four wrestlers nab bronze or better at conference tourney

Continued from Page A12  
"To finish at the top of the conference was really huge for me," Kraus said. "I made it pretty far from being on crutches all last year."

Earning strong finishes for the Jays were sophomore 184-pounder Eric Fishel and junior 133-pounder Jimmy Van Daniker, taking second and third place respectively. Their losses came to a pair of Ursinus wrestlers, Eddie Murray at 133 pounds and Mike Troutman at 184 pounds, who carved their place in the Centennial Conference record books by becoming the third and fourth four-time champions in the conference's history.

Fishel recorded a pin and an 8-7 decision before taking an 18-5 loss against Troutman, and Van Daniker recorded a pin before being bumped into the consolation bracket by Murray, where he reeled off two more pins to capture third.

Junior co-captain and 141-

Continued from Page A12  
intensity of a championship game to the very end.

Meisenberg scored the first points of the game when she hit a three-pointer less than two minutes into the contest. Meisenberg's shot from behind the arc was the first of 11 three-pointers for Franklin Marshall, accounting for more than half of all Diplomat scoring.

The Blue Jays, paced by senior guard/forward Katie Kimball's team-high 14 points, took a commanding lead ignited by a pair of layups from Kimball. Kimball was one of three Blue Jays to score in double-digit figures.

Dodrill collected 12 points and six rebounds, while junior guard Haley Wojdowski chalked up 11 points and dished out four assists.

The Blue Jays sprinted out to a 12-point lead when senior guard Katie O'Malley hit a free throw to put the Jays in front, 21-9.

The Diplomats, fighting a stingy Blue Jay defense, closed the gap to three when Diplomat freshman forward Maxie Eless hit a free throw to set the score 28-25 and to finish all scoring for the first half.

Franklin & Marshall regained the lead at the 12:26 mark when Diplomat senior guard Christy Strunk nailed a three-pointer to lift the Diplomats to a 41-40 lead. The Blue Jays, however, battled back to recapture the lead less than a minute later.

However, no lead was safe in this game. In the last ten minutes, both teams would trade baskets and send the lead from one team to the other. With less than a minute remaining in regulation,

pounder Marco Priolo also took a third place finish, but you wouldn't know it if you asked him.

"I did terribly," he said. "I was really frustrated at the tournament. I'm going to be thinking about it all year." Priolo, the No. 3 seed, took his loss to Muhlenberg's Rob Kein, the No. 2 seed.

Priolo's frustration comes from the right place: his desire to be a champion.

"No one but Kraus should be satisfied with their performance," he said. "We need to try and make ourselves better every day."

If the young Jays follow Priolo's advice, they should come back strong after the off-season. Hopkins could possibly return its entire starting lineup, now with an extra year of veteran experience.

But for one Blue Jay, the season isn't over, and he isn't satisfied yet. Dave Kraus is going to nationals, and he wants to come home an All-American.

The Blue Jays had secured a 64-62 lead.

With just 30 seconds left, Meisenberg found Franklin & Marshall senior guard Dana Johns open for a three-pointer, her fourth in the final six minutes. Franklin & Marshall would hold on for a 65-64 victory, giving the Blue Jays their second one-point loss in three games.

The loss to Franklin & Marshall ends the eight-game winning streak over the Diplomats for the Blue Jays, giving Franklin & Marshall its first victory over Hopkins since Feb. 27, 2002 and its first victory at Goldfarb Gymnasium since Dec. 4, 1993.

The Jays will have to pull off a road win this Saturday when they face Dickinson in the semifinals of the Centennial Conference Tournament at Muhlenberg College at 1 p.m.

"We have had a really rough experience on the road this season and Muhlenberg is no exception," Dodrill said. "It is a tough gym to play in. We know this has been our weakness in the past and I think we'll definitely step up and play hard."

Hopkins previously defeated Dickinson on Jan. 26 at Goldfarb Gym, 71-61. But the Jays know that it is far too early to rest on their laurels.

"I think we have acknowledged



TURSINA ABDUL-RASHID/NEWS-LETTER

Senior forward Amanda Leese looks to pass the ball to junior guard Haley Wojdowski against F&M.

that playoffs are completely different," Dodrill said. "We need to treat this game like it is our semifinal game of the tournament. We are coming off two rough losses and I think we need to take this game separately, even though we have beaten them before."

## 2006 CENTENNIAL CONFERENCE WOMEN'S TOURNAMENT

FIRST ROUND - Wednesday, Feb. 22 - 7 p.m.  
No. 5 Gettysburg at No. 4 McDaniel

SEMIFINALS - Saturday, Feb. 25 - 1 and 3 p.m.  
First Round Winner at No. 1 Muhlenberg  
No. 3 Dickinson vs. No. 2 Johns Hopkins

CHAMPIONSHIP - Sunday, Feb. 26 - 3 p.m.  
Semifinal Winners

## THE 2006 JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY FOREIGN AFFAIRS SYMPOSIUM PRESENTS...

# IDEOLOGIES IN FLUX SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

THE RISING EAST: INDIA AND CHINA IN THE 21ST CENTURY  
Tuesday, February 28th, 8pm — Shriver Hall  
THOMAS FRIEDMAN  
PULITZER PRIZE-WINNING COLUMNIST  
NEW YORK TIMES



### AIDS CRISIS IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

Wednesday, March 15th, 8pm — Hodson 110  
- DR THOMAS QUINN, SR. INVESTIGATOR OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES, NIH  
- ROBYN MUNFORD, DIRECTOR, STUDENT PARTNERSHIPS WORLDWIDE  
- JANNEAN MARIN, PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISOR FOR OFFICE OF HIV/AIDS, USAID

### PROSPECTS FOR DEMOCRACY IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Wednesday, March 29th, 8pm — Hodson 110  
- ELEANA GORDON, VICE PRESIDENT, FOUNDATION FOR THE DEFENSE OF DEMOCRACIES  
- DR BARRY RUBIN, AUTHOR, 'THE LONG WAR FOR FREEDOM. AN ARAB STRUGGLE...'  
- SALAMEH NEMATT, WASHINGTON BUREAU CHIEF, AL-HAYAT NEWS  
- DR CHRIS PREBLE, FOREIGN POLICY DIRECTOR, THE CATO INSTITUTE

### WAR & THE MEDIA

Wednesday, April 5th, 9:30pm — Shriver Hall  
CHRIS MATTHEWS, HOST OF 'HARDBALL WITH CHRIS MATTHEWS' MSNBC

### AMERICA AT THE CROSSROADS:

### FINDING OUR ROLE IN A CHANGING WORLD

Wednesday, April 11th, 8pm — Glass Pavilion  
FRANCIS FUKUYAMA, DIRECTOR, INT'L DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM  
SCHOOL OF ADVANCED INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

### REMAKING EUROPE: TURKEY'S ROLE IN THE EU

Tuesday, April 18th, 8pm — Glass Pavilion  
- DR ERIK JONES, PROFESSOR OF EUROPEAN STUDIES, SAIS BOLOGNA IN ITALY  
- SABRI SAYARI, PROFESSOR OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES, SABANCI UNIVERSITY IN TURKEY  
- SYLVIE GOULARD, PROFESSOR OF EUROPEAN STUDIES, SCIENCE PO IN FRANCE

### A STRUGGLE FOR PEACE:

### THE FUTURE OF ISRAEL AND THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE

Wednesday, April 26th, 8pm — Glass Pavilion  
DENNIS ROSS, DIRECTOR  
DC INSTITUTE FOR NEAR EAST POLICY

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ATHLETE OF THE WEEK  
 ALLIE FOSTER, SWIMMING

Nerves don't faze Hopkins' high-pressure swimmer

By DREW LEFKOF  
 The Johns Hopkins News-Letter

Physical prerequisites aside, the division between champions and pretenders lies in their ability to be mentally strong and brush aside anxiety and doubt. For recent NCAA qualifier Allie Foster, this is surely the case.

"I was pretty nervous before my race, partly because I was seeded first. I tried to focus on the team, not myself," Foster said. "In high school and previous races, I would get a lot more nervous. In college, I learned to keep my nerves more under control."

Foster, a junior, helped lead the Blue Jays to a win at the Blue Grass Mountain Conference Championships, setting a meet and pool record in the 200-yard breaststroke. Her 2:23.76 finish earned her a third trip to the Division III NCAA Championships in Minneapolis on Mar. 9-11.

She also finished fourth in the 200-yard individual medley, also swimming a leg on the second place 400-yard free stroke relay.

She mentioned how much of her collegiate success can be attributed to her ability to ward off nervousness.

"When I started swimming competitively year-round in fourth grade, I would refuse to swim right before my race, by holding on to my mom crying," Foster said. "Once I got on the blocks and into the water, I was fine. Even in high school sometimes, my nerves would get the better of me."

She pointed to a meet during her freshman year of high school, in which her performance floundered due to nerves.

"Getting nervous like that really drained me physically and mentally. By the time I was supposed to race, I was already mentally tired," she said. "The next year, at the same meet, I doubted myself at first. But then, I told



COURTESY OF WILL KIRK

myself, 'Just screw it. Just race.' And I performed pretty well."

Foster credits her performances in prior high pressure races, such as previous NCAA Championship meets, due to her ability to keep calm.

"The atmosphere at nationals is always amazing. It's almost like the Olympics with the way the pool is set up," she said. "Sometimes, I would start getting antsy and pace around the pool. But I've learned in the past to keep my calm, and before long it is time to race."

She credits her teammates for her newfound ability to remain

calm under pressure.

"Everyone on the team is friends with one another outside of the pool, as we can easily relate

to one another. During Intersession, when no one else is around, we get together for nighttime dessert parties," she said. "This closeness breeds great chemistry at meets and with everyone cheering loudly for one another. That picks me up when I get a little antsy."

Foster added that her goal for her third trip to nationals remains similar to her previous trips to the NCAA stage.

"Ever since I began swim-

ming, I would set goals for each season. Tangibly, I would like to get under 2:20 in the 200, but I am really just striving to do my best," she said.

She added that her motivation to strive for a high level of performance comes simply from a love for swimming.

"Ever since fourth grade, competitive swimming has been a huge part of my life. I love training and staying in shape," she said. "When I am out of my training schedule, it feels like something is missing."

VITAL  
 STATISTICS

Year: Junior  
 Major: History of Art  
 Event: Breaststroke/IM

Hopkins Highlights:  
 Set the Blue Grass Mountain Conference Championship meet record with a 200-yard breaststroke time of 2:23.76.

Fencing to face stiff competition in MACFA

By ALENA GEFFNER-MIHLSTEN  
 The Johns Hopkins News-Letter

Going into their final competitions, the men's fencing team is looking strong.

Unfortunately, so is the rest of the field.

With a current record of 23 wins and 13 losses, the team heads into the Middle Atlantic Collegiate Fencing Association (MACFA) championships.

The team traditionally places well at MACFA. Last year they came in first place out of 14 teams. This year, however, MACFA will prove to be more challenging.

"We'll be playing against Drew and Haverford, both of whom managed to beat us unexpectedly earlier in the season," said junior captain Nick Marchuk.

This past weekend, the team faced Drew in the New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) Invitational. It was a close match, with Drew edging the Jays 15-12.

"It was unexpected," said Marchuk. "It was also a very close game."

At the NJIT meet, the Blue Jays performed well against their other opponents. In their first game of the meet, Hopkins played against NJIT and managed to have a perfect 21-0 game. The team next played against Cornell,

Jays dominate the pool at regular season finale

Men's and women's qualifiers to head to NCAAs on March 16

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A12  
 that Kalei could not be with us in the pool," said Foster. "NCAA Championships are now only a few weeks away, and it's exciting to know it will be held in one of the fastest pools in the country."

Senior Stephanie Leaman placed first in the 1000-yard freestyle and second in the 1650-yard freestyle in 18:03.58. Freshman Elissa Stautner finished behind Leaman in the event, placing third with a time of 18:20.95.

"The Blue Grass Invitational was a victorious first place finish for us," said Leaman. "Everyone swam their best and we were able to overcome some upsets. There were numerous first place finishes that helped lead us to taking first. It was a bittersweet experience for me, since it was my last college performance, but I am extremely proud of how all the girls competed, and better yet, had a blast while doing it."

Freshman Kristen Cunningham finished second in the 100-yard freestyle with a time of 53.94. Hopkins swimmers placed both second and third in the 200-yard butterfly. Sophomore Stephanie Laperle was second, in 2:09.76, which was an NCAA provisional time. Junior Kelly Robinson was third, in 2:10.57.

"Overall, many of the girls had amazing weekends which resulted in top three places in every event except one relay," said Robinson. "It was also great

that every girl on the team made it back for finals at night in some event. Because of each girl on the team, as a whole, we were able to win the meet for the first time after our second place finish to Wingate University last year."

Robinson emphasized that it was a team performance all the way.

"Every girl should be very excited about their contributions to the team and feel good about how the season finished," she said.

The Hopkins women's team, including Robinson, will find out Thursday if their provisional times will be good enough for the NCAA Division III Championships, which will be held in Minneapolis, Minn. next month.

"We need to focus and get through these next few weeks, knowing that the entire team is behind us," said Foster. "I think that's the best part of this team, we may not all be best friends — but when someone is in the water, every girl is behind her block cheering, genuinely wanting her to do her best. We really do support each other in every way."

Qualifiers from the Hopkins men's team will compete at the ECAC Championships this weekend in Pittsburgh, and then will also head to the NCAA Championships on March 16. Last year, the men placed third at nationals, while the women were 11th.

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 Prokofiev: Suite from Cinderella

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# SPORTS

Did You Know?

Gene Bess, the coach of Three Rivers Community College in Missouri, became the first ever collegiate coach to amass 1,000 career wins. Bess has coached the Raiders, who compete in the National Junior College Athletic Association, for 36 years.

CALENDAR

SATURDAY

Men's Lacrosse vs. Albany 1 p.m.

## M. b'ball drops three straight to end season

Jays are still seeded No. 2 in Centennial Conference Tourney

By JOHN MONAGAN  
The Johns Hopkins News-Letter

The Hopkins men's basketball team stumbled its way toward the end of the regular season, going 0-2 last week with losses at home against Gettysburg on Wednesday and at Franklin & Marshall on Saturday. The Blue Jays fell to 17-7 overall and 13-5 in Centennial Conference play.

More important, however, is that the Blue Jays dropped three in a row headed into the Centennial Conference Tournament, and after starting the season 13-3 went 4-4 in their last eight games.

Junior guard TJ Valerio saw the losses as a bad sign for the future, since the team hasn't played what he feels to be a "full game" in the last few losses.

"We have been waiting too long to play with a sense of urgency," he said. "We can't play softly for the first 30 minutes and then turn it on in the final ten. We need to play harder for a full game instead of short periods of time."

In a 65-58 loss against Gettysburg, the Blue Jays shot just 38 percent in the first half, then allowed the Bullets to shoot 58 percent in the second half. The Blue Jays were unable to find their offense after Matt Griffin and Dan Nawrocki, the two junior forwards and leading scorers, got into foul trouble in the first half.

The Jays trailed 25-21 at halftime. The second half, which was paced much faster than the first, still ended with the Jays on the short end. The Jays were outscored 40-37.

Nawrocki led the way for the Jays with 17 points, but Hopkins was unable to find another scorer to register double digits. Griffin only registered 13 minutes of play, but in those 13 minutes he scored eight points.

Valerio and sophomore guard Terrance Coppola also registered eight points apiece for the Jays.

The Jays appeared to lack enthusiasm and energy in the game against Gettysburg, as they were consistently out-hustled on rebounds by the smaller Bullets. Hopkins was out-rebounded 39-24 in the game.

The Jays, perhaps because they

already had clinched the No. 2 seed in the Centennial Conference tournament, were unable to gain a mental advantage over the Bullets, as they lost the season series 0-2.

With the win, Gettysburg clinched the No. 3 seed in the post-season tournament, which means a first-round match-up awaits both teams next Saturday, Feb. 25 at Ursinus. The Jays will need to find a way to end their losing streak against the Bullets.

"We are going to compete against each other a lot," said Valerio of the team's practice strategies this week. "We will practice to put us in better game-type situations. We will also watch a lot of game film to figure out what Gettysburg likes to do offensively and defensively, so we will be ready to give it our all on Saturday."

Against a surprisingly poor Franklin & Marshall squad, the Jays got down early on senior day and were never able to pull closer than two points the rest of the way. The Jays trailed 30-25 at halftime before eventually losing 61-50. The Blue Jays were led by Nawrocki and Griffin once again, who tallied 11 and ten points, respectively.

If they expect to compete in the Centennial Conference Tournament, the Jays will need to find offense outside of Griffin and Nawrocki. As the last two games have proved, it has become too easy for teams to key in on the two Blue Jay big men and handicap the Hopkins offense.

The Bullets were aggressive with the Jays' inside players and were able to get both Nawrocki and Griffin in foul trouble. In order to get by Gettysburg in the first round, and to a potential finals match-up against the No. 1 seeded Ursinus, the Blue Jays will need to find offense from other sources.

"We have a number of guys, whether it is starters or bench players, who can score," said Valerio of the Blue Jays' offensive attack. "It is just a matter of playing to our ability. If we do that, we can compete with anybody."

The Jays will find out if it is enough this weekend when they travel to Ursinus to play in the Centennial Conference Tournament. Hopkins opens up with Gettysburg on Saturday at 3 p.m.



MARK MEHLINGER/NEWS-LETTER

Freshman guard Scott Weisenfeld scored five points in the Jays' loss to Gettysburg.



COURTESY OF WILL KIRK

Senior Dave Kraus won the 174-pound weight division at the Centennial Conference Tourney despite being injured last season.

## Kraus wrestles his way to NCAAs

174-pounder wins Centennial Conference, will advance to nationals, Jays come in fourth place

By ZACH GOODMAN  
The Johns Hopkins News-Letter

Nothing comes easy for Dave Kraus. Kraus, co-captain, 174-pounder and the lone senior on this year's wrestling team, spent all of last year with a debilitating knee injury that had him on crutches for the entire 2004-05 season. The injury even hampered his prospects for this season, thus holding him to modest goals.

"This year I was really hoping, first of all, to make every weigh-in and not get injured," he said.

But after the Centennial Conference Championships last Saturday, hosted by Hopkins, Kraus set a new goal.

"Hopefully I'll come away [from Nationals] an All-American," he said.

Kraus put an exclamation point on the end of his recovery by winning the conference tournament in stunning fashion, holding onto a one-point lead in the last seconds of his final bout against McDaniel's No. 1-seeded freshman Andrew Winfield. He became Hopkins' only champion of the day and the first since Reed Shegier in 2001.

The win will send him to The College of New Jersey on Mar. 3 for the NCAA Division III Wrestling Championships.

"I honestly couldn't believe it," said Kraus on his victory. His matches were the highlights of the tournament for the Jays, who accrued 55 points to finish fourth of eight teams.

Ursinus took home their fourth consecutive team title with 98.5 points, followed in second and third by McDaniel and Muhlenberg, respectively. Gettysburg,

Stevens, United States Merchant Marine Academy and Washington & Lee rounded out the bottom half of the standings.

After receiving a first-round bye as the No. 2 seed, Kraus got ahead of USMMA's Nate Van de Venter in the first period and never looked back. He wrestled a conservative match that ended in a 6-3 decision, setting him up for his final against Winfield.

Kraus and Winfield had wrestled in the same tournament earlier in the season but had not faced one another. In November's Messiah Invitational, Kraus had to settle for third after being ousted by Messiah's Anthony Dill. Winfield, however, beat Dill in the finals for the championship.

Kraus avenged the loss to Dill with a 5-4 win in the Jays' dual meet against Messiah. Now he had a chance to show Winfield what would have happened if he had been in that final bout at Messiah.

But Winfield wasn't about to make it easy. Compared to Kraus' semi-final match, the roles were reversed as Winfield notched the first period takedown and held Kraus, typically an escape artist, on the mat for the remainder of the period. Something had to change in the second period for Kraus to tip the balance in his favor.

Something did.

Kraus had the choice of starting positions at the outset of the period. Most wrestlers with choice in the second period defer to their opponent in favor of having the option in the third period, but Kraus took his choice and elected to start in the bottom position, where Winfield had held him for over a minute in the previous period. He needed an escape.

"I felt it was the only way I could get back into the match," he said. True to the form he displayed throughout the season, Kraus exploded off the whistle and notched his escape. But he was still behind 1-2, where the match stayed until the third period.

And that's when Winfield's control began to unravel. He was hit with stalling calls, further upsetting his momentum. Finally,

with about 30 seconds left on the clock, Kraus scored a takedown that put him ahead for good. Kraus 4, Winfield 3.

CONTINUED ON PAGE A10

## W. b'ball loses close home game

By DAVID NGUYEN  
The Johns Hopkins News-Letter

Senior Day celebrates not only the last home regular season game for the seniors, but also four years of dedicated service to the sport, the school and the team.

On Sunday's Senior Day for the Hopkins women's basketball team, it was, surprisingly, a freshman that stole the spotlight. Franklin & Marshall freshman

guard Sarah Meisenberg anchored a Diplomat squad with 23 points to upset fellow Centennial Conference member Johns Hopkins 65-64.

Senior Day is, without question, one the most important games of the year. Seniors reflect on their collegiate careers knowing that for one last time they will run the floors of Goldfarb Gymnasium and bask in the praise of the home crowd.

The irony of the situation is that on such an important day, the game itself was meaningless. The Jays had already locked up the No. 2 seed in the conference tournament the following week, while the Diplomats were too far out of reach for a playoff bid.

There was a lot of emotion in the game because it was the last game for the seniors," said sophomore Andrea Dodrill. "I think that we, to a certain point, underestimated them [F&M] and they came out really strong and ready to play. It was a tough game. We definitely should have taken it but I just think we just weren't ready to play."

Nevertheless, the game delivered the excitement and  
CONTINUED ON PAGE A10



MARK MEHLINGER/NEWS-LETTER

The Lady Jays will take their freestyle skills to the NCAA D-III Championship meet.

## W. swimming takes first at Blue Grass Mountain meet

By CLAIRE KOEHLER  
The Johns Hopkins News-Letter

In their final regular season meet of the year, the Hopkins women's swim team finished on a very impressive note. The Lady Jays won the Blue Grass Mountain Conference Championships by over 70 points. They notched a total of 664 points, 73 points ahead of Wingate University, who finished in second.

Junior Allie Foster set both a meet and pool record on the final day of competition in the 200-yard breaststroke with a time of 2:23.76. The time met the provisional qualifying mark for the NCAA Division III Championships. Senior Jessica Chang came in third in the same event with a time of 2:28.48.

"It was really exciting to hear Hopkins announced as the overall girl's team winner," said Foster. "We all worked so hard to get there and it was the first

time that this team accomplished something of this caliber together. Winning Blue Grass has been our top goal since the very beginning of the season, and every meet since then was just preparing us for the competition that we faced in Ohio."

Hopkins swept the 200-yard backstroke, taking first through third. Sophomore Erica Pakkala won with a time of 2:07.30. The win was her second overall as well as her second NCAA Division III provisional mark.

Senior Katie Herbst came in just over a second behind Pakkala to claim second place. Her time of 2:08.66 was also an NCAA Division III qualifying time. In third place was freshman Kate Hansen with a time of 2:10.37.

"The team did a great job of overcoming Thursday morning's injury [senior Kalei Walker broke her hand], and I think each of us swam a little bit harder knowing  
CONTINUED ON PAGE A11

### INSIDE

#### Winter Olympics just aren't that Olympic

The Winter Olympics exclude most of the world based on climate and economic status. And they're boring. Well, at least no one is watching them, says columnist Jason Farber. **Page A10.**

#### Fencing will look for revenge at MACFA

The men's fencing team traditionally thrives at the MACFA Championships. But this year, they'll face Haverford and Drew, both of whom beat the Jays earlier in the season. **Page A11.**

#### Big meet pressure isn't big problem for Foster

The rigors of a competitive meet can get to some swimmers, and they used to get to junior Allie Foster. But now she knows how to relax — and how to break records in the pool. **Page A11.**



# THE B SECTION

Focus • Features • Arts & Entertainment • Calendar • Cartoons • Photo Essay

FEBRUARY 23, 2006

## Hopkins excavation uncovers a queen



Deep in the sands  
of Luxor, Egypt, a  
Hopkins archaeology  
team discovers a rare  
statue of Queen Tiye  
— the famous King  
Tut's grandmother.  
We take you inside  
the dig.

Story by ANNA  
YUKHANANOV

Photographs by JAY  
VANRESSELAER

When Professor Betsy Bryan and her team were excavating in Egypt, the aerial photographs they took of the temple site revealed a light line running in a rectangle across the ground. Thinking it was an architectural structure of some sort because of its regularity, the team of Hopkins students, along with Egyptian workers, began digging to uncover it, said Bryan, a professor in the Near Eastern Studies department.

"We got really excited that we'd find something interesting, something new," she said. "But we dug it and it turned out to be a modern trench for water pipes."

The confluence of the ancient past with the modern reality that often disrupts it is one of the challenges of archaeology, Bryan said.

Bryan traveled to Luxor, Egypt, this January to continue excavations on the Mut Temple Precinct, where she has worked for the past six years. A photographer and several graduate and undergraduate students from Hopkins came with her on the dig.

The temple was built in honor of the female goddess Mut, and one of Bryan's goals during this year was to discover more about what the temple looked like and the details of the ritual observance that occurred there.

The most exciting find during this season was a life-sized statue of a queen, most likely Queen Tiye, made of a black material called granodiorite.

However, Jay VanRensselaer, the photographer on the dig, said that it is important to realize that archaeology is not about discovering a statue every season. Nevertheless, the team uncovered a rare statue of an Egyptian queen, believed to have been carved around 1391 B.C.

"A lot of archaeology is a meticulous process," VanRensselaer said. "I work for hours just photographing little diagnostic pieces of pottery, bone, beads. It's not all glory; it's also hard work."

The tools archaeologists use — a small pick, a trowel, brushes and a bucket to carry dirt — are made to slow the process down even further. Often it takes a whole day to clear a 10 centimeter level of earth. However, the slow progress is necessary to insure nothing is broken or missed.

Graduate student Adam Maskevich, who plans on pursuing a career in field archaeology, calls archaeology "elegant destruction."

"You're touching something that was last touched by human hands thousands and thousands of years ago," he said. "But to fully understand it, you have to change it, you have to partially destroy it. It's impossible to re-excavate a site."

Much of the time on an archaeological dig is spent measuring levels of finds, drawing pictures, taking photographs and in general trying to at least partially recapture and understand what is destroyed through the excavating process. This documentation adds to the collective knowledge database of archaeologists, and is often the only record that something existed.

For example, a red granite block from the Mut temple used to have an inscription on it. However, the inscription disintegrated and now its photograph is all that remains, VanRensselaer said.

Although it was sophomore Emily Russo's first time doing archaeology, this January she was put in charge of a five-meter-square trench.

CONTINUED ON PAGE B4

### Inside B Section

#### Is B'more punk dead?

With a shrinking audience and decline in scene-making bands, local punk artists fight for survival. Is a revival in the future? Page B6.



#### Friedman kicks off FAS

Thomas Friedman, *New York Times* columnist and *The World Is Flat* author, will open the Foreign Affairs Symposium. Page B10.





# Open Hands Open Hearts

## Exploring Diverse Faith Traditions



**Friday, February 24<sup>th</sup>**  
**1:15pm** at the IFC  
**Muslim Juma'h Prayer Service.**  
45-minute prayer service and lecture.

**5:30pm** at the IFC  
**Free Chinese Shabbat Dinner.**  
All faiths are encouraged to learn about and share in the Jewish Sabbath.

**Tuesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>**  
**9pm - 11pm** at the IFC  
**Mardi Gras Pancake Dinner**  
Hosted by the Catholic Community at Hopkins.

February 18th through March 2nd

**Sunday, February 26<sup>th</sup>**  
**11:00am** at the IFC  
**Hindu Aarthi.**  
Weekly 20 minute prayer followed by a discussion of Hindu philosophy.

**11:00am & 5:30pm** at the IFC  
**Roman Catholic Mass**  
celebrated by Father Thomas Ryan.

**4pm** at the IFC  
**Sandwich Sunday**  
Join us as we make 125 delicious lunches for STAR, a community-based organization serving people living with HIV/AIDS.

**Sunday, February 26<sup>th</sup>**  
**6pm - 7pm** at the IFC  
**Open Your Eyes Dinner**  
Free dinner and presentation, "One God, Many Forms" sponsored by the Hindu Student Council and the JHU Interfaith Council.

**Thursday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
**7pm** at the IFC  
**Should the Left Behind Series**  
**Be Left Behind? Reading the Book of Revelation Today**  
A discussion of the *Left Behind* Series led by Michael J. Gorman, Ph.D., Dean of the Ecumenical Institute of Theology at St. Mary's Seminary & University and a professor of Biblical Studies.

**9pm** at the IFC  
**Cosmic Coffee House**  
Live Performances, Karaoke, Games and Snacks! For more information or to sign up to perform contact Brittany at [bschriver@jhu.edu](mailto:bschriver@jhu.edu)

All events are open to students, faculty and staff and will take place at the Bunting-Meyerhoff Interfaith and Community Service Center, 3509 N. Charles Street. For more information, call Campus Ministries @ 410-261-1880 or visit our web site at [www.jhu.edu/~chaplain](http://www.jhu.edu/~chaplain).

Open Hand Open Hearts is produced under the auspices of JHU's Interfaith Council and Campus Ministries

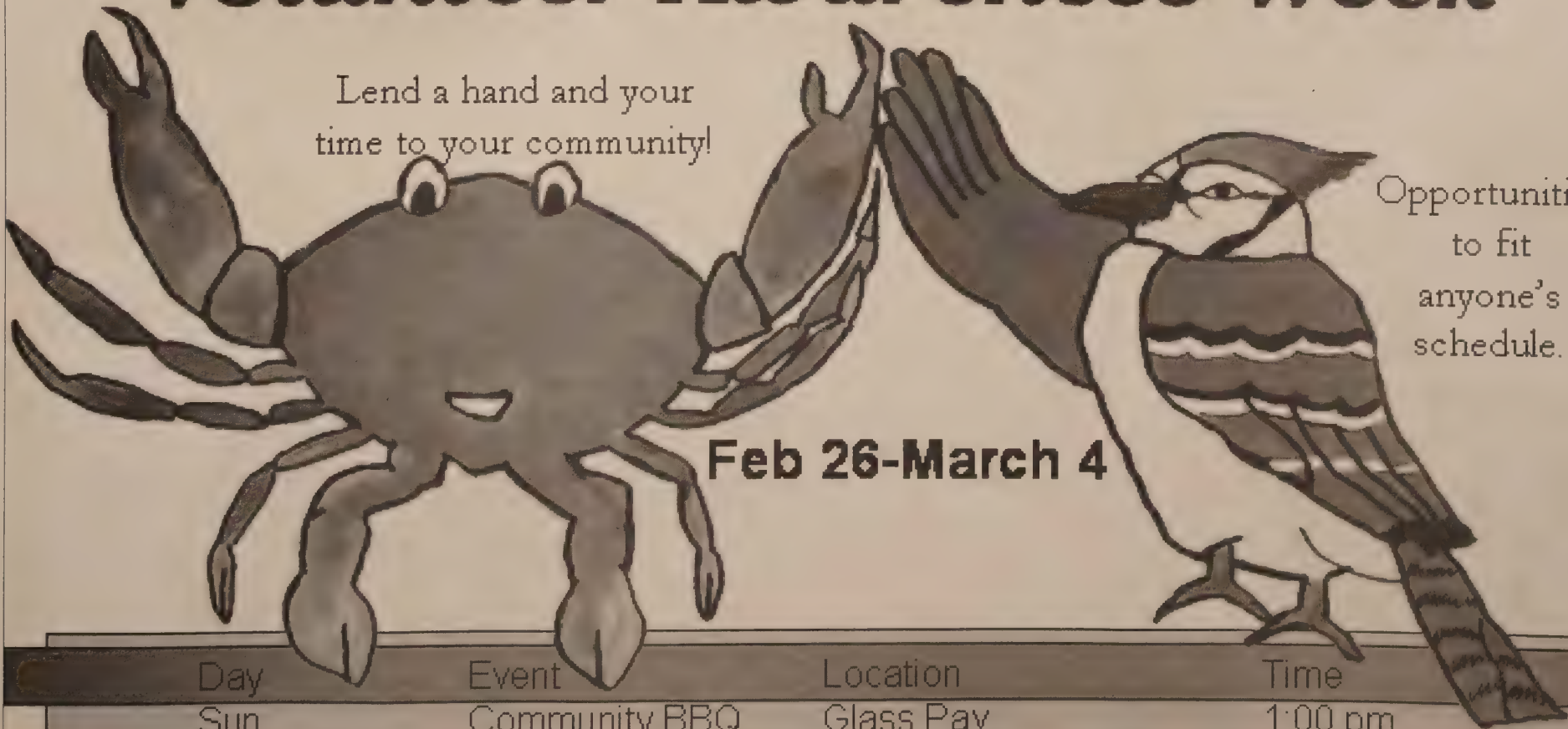
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Day	Event	Location	Time
Sun	Community BBQ	Glass Pav	1:00 pm
Mon	The Book Sort	Sherwood Room	All day
Tues	Reading Day	Kelson Elementary	10:30 am
Wed	Bag-a-Lunch	Sherwood Rm/Wolman	All Day
Thurs	Street Talk Panel	Great Hall	5:30 pm
Fri	Kraft for Kids	Terrace/QLevel/Wolman	All day
Sat	Habiday	Off campus	8:30 am

Sign up by emailing [volunteer@jhu.edu](mailto:volunteer@jhu.edu) or show up to lend a hand!



# FEATURES

## Semester at sea changes view of landlocked life

*St. Augustine was recorded as saying, "The world is a book, and those who do not travel read only a page." In that spirit, we continue our series on study abroad experiences that have illuminated Hopkins students.*

Our second edition covers a semester spent studying and traveling at sea. If you have also spent time studying abroad and have been inspired by the experience, e-mail us at [features@jhunewsletter.com](mailto:features@jhunewsletter.com).

I never thought I would have time to study abroad as an undergrad. My commitments made it difficult to consider an absence from work at school. While training for swimming, I was also trying to raise my GPA and complete a research project. However, it was the end of my junior year and I was ready to do something different. Instead of research work and summer training, I decided to spend my time out at sea.

My initial interest in the Woods Hole SEA Semester was the opportunity for adventure and, of course, the life-changing experience that is practically guaranteed upon embarking on a trip abroad.

The trip began with a month in Woods Hole, Mass., where I spent time taking courses in nautical science, oceanography and maritime studies. I wasn't expecting a challenge when I arrived, but I quickly found myself working harder than I ever had at Hopkins.

There were 30 other students from all over the States and Canada participating in the program, and I was the only one from Hopkins. With no TV, bad cell phone reception and students majoring in everything from music to marine geophysics, a month was plenty of time to make some awesome new friends.

We created quite an experience for ourselves while learning about navigation, Coriolis effects and the adventures of Captain Cook. However, my time in Woods Hole was fairly typical of the study abroad experience. The truly unique adventure was out at sea.

After a month of preparations, the trip began. For the next 28 days, my shipmates and I were the fully functional crew of the brigantine SSV Robert C. Seamans. During our trip from Ha-

waii to San Francisco, we lived in bunks with our belongings and ran the ship in rotating shifts divided between three "watches." We had class every day on the quarterdeck, and each student completed an original research project while at sea.

Writing a paper and conducting experiments in addition to "learning the ropes" was no easy task. The heavy workload at Hopkins had not prepared me for what was to come in the next month.

The significance of our voyage across the Pacific was reflected by the fear of the trip's end before we had even reported for duty in Hawaii. The commitment of our ship's crew was immediately tested by rough seas outside of Oahu. Most of us were already vomiting off the side of the ship, with the exception of a few particularly lucky ones. This seasick feeling was worse than any hang-over or illness I've ever had.

For the next few days, I longed to return home to solid ground.

The strength and determination of the crew was inspirational, as I watched my shipmates take the helm, vomit over board and then return to the helm. Meanwhile, I could barely stand. When I recovered, I was eager to join in on the ship's duties and help out those that were still buried in the cuppers.

Time went by fast once everyone was in the groove of working aboard a tall ship. We rotated through from dawn watch to mid watch shifts, and we quickly lost track of what day it was or how much sleep we had the "night" before.

This oblivious feeling was only exaggerated by being completely cut off from the world, personal music, news and the Internet. Somehow, after the first week, the world as we knew it fit onto a 134-foot, 280-ton sailing vessel. Our captain knew from experience that this was a major part of our personal journeys.

The trip was very difficult at times. There were nights when I would work on my research paper for hours, and then go to bed only to be woken up a half an hour later for watch duty.

During some shifts, we would be deploying science equipment, and during other shifts we would



Junior Sean Kim (right) sails beneath the Golden Gate Bridge during his time at sea.

be running and hauling on lines in the middle of a squall. We also had "field days" every week, where we would clean every part of the ship down to the cracks between the head and the sole. There were times when my shipmates and I would become frustrated and feel defeated, but not a single one of us ever wanted to leave.

From our work in maritime studies we had learned about the toils of life at sea, but we also knew that there were those "and yet" moments that caused people to return to such a life. By the end of the trip, the Robert C. Seamans was full of these moments. Watching porpoises jockey at our bow, standing in the foul breath of a curious humpback whale and climbing to the top of the main mast were all amazing experiences.

The swim calls, the sunsets, the sunrises, sailing under the

## Thai Arroy satisfies any Southeast Asian craving

Craving Thai or Chinese food while living in Baltimore can be quite a tease. Unlike San Francisco or New York, our lovely city is certainly not a mecca for Asian cuisine. The selection of decent restaurants is minimal and often the food would be more accurately advertised as American entrees with Asian flare.

Unlike many restaurants' misleading attempts to publicize their establishments as traditional Asian eateries, Thai Arroy is true to its name. Arroy, appropriately meaning delicious in Thai, perfectly describes the food at this small Federal Hill restaurant. From the moment I walked into the small dining area, I knew that this was it, the genuine Thai meal that I had been searching for. A detailed mural and burgundy brick walls create a dramatic ambiance for Arroy's limited space. Nine glass-covered tables with intricate Thai tablecloths are close together, generating a relatively high noise level for diners.

The mesmerizing aroma of sautéed shallots, coconut milk and curry distracts the customers' attention away from the crowded accommodations. Blue and white china, cloth napkins and tiny oriental vases create an unexpectedly upscale atmosphere.

The wait staff's customary Thai attire reflects a dedication to a higher quality and traditional dining experience. The service was fantastic. Early on a Friday evening I was quickly seated without a reservation. The friendly staffer patiently answered questions about the menu and offered great recommendations for our meal.

The spring roll appetizer (\$6) was perfectly crisp and generously packed with chicken, cabbage, carrot and bean thread, complimented with a side of tangy sweet chili sauce. The entrees were equally delightful and could have each easily fed two people.

In order to establish a point of comparison to other Thai restaurants, I ordered the most common plate — chicken pad thai. Unlike most pad thai, the rice noodles were surprisingly light and extremely sticky with a subtle lemon flavoring. The contrast between the sour citrus zest and

the sweet Thai sauce made a blend that was addictive.

For my second entrée, I was adventurous and tried the *kha tiem prik thai*. The bite-sized portions of chicken were flawlessly sautéed with ground pepper, fresh garlic, onion and scallion. The chicken was paired with broccoli and rice that were cooked to perfection. Just as the restaurant's name claims, the food is not only absolutely delicious, but it also doesn't leave you feeling like you have just consumed a plate of oil, which is rare for most Thai cuisine. I say hooray for Arroy.

**Carleigh Connelly**  
*Baltimore's Best Eats*

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Open for lunch Tuesday-Saturday and dinner Tuesday-Sunday. Entrees range from \$10 to \$15.

Web site: <http://www.thaiarroy.com>

## A challenge to capitalism, free of charge

By ERICA MITRANO  
The Johns Hopkins News-Letter

A filthy blue child's coat. A gray Ann Taylor skirt, size six. A tiny iron skillet. Faded hair ribbons. A glass serving bowl and matching vase. A tattered pair of jeans.

All of these things, and many others, were arrayed on tables in a community center in Patterson Park last Saturday. The event was organized by the Baltimore Free Store. As the name implies, the group exists to collect unwanted things and give them away.

"I like the idea of it. [I've] never been to a free giveaway before," said Jacqueline Cross, a visitor to the store. "Free days are wonderful for me. It gave me something to do on a Saturday morning."

Shoppers crowded around the tables, sorting through piles of clothing and examining the miscellaneous house wares that were offered. Children sifted through piles of toys and battered books. Free Store volunteers rushed around, putting out more items and struggling to restore some order to the chaos on the tables. A small girl ran around carrying a contraption that looked something like a cross between a waffle iron and a three-hole punch. "Can I get this, Mommy?" she called out as she zoomed around the room.

While many of the Free Store's visitors are poor, Faith Void, a member of the collective that organizes the Free Store, emphasized that it is not a charity.

"I find quote-charitable-unquote organizations which are supposed to help people below them demeaning," Void said. "We're not helping people, we're giving them a chance to help themselves. I find this more empowering."

According to its members, the Free Store is an opportunity to put their own anarchist and anti-capitalist beliefs into practice. Especially the principle of "mutual aid," articulated by the anarchist Peter Kropotkin at the beginning of the 20th century.

"None of us are rich. It's not like we're some upper class people coming in and helping the poor. We're poor too," Void explained.



Iris Peppar of the Baltimore Free Store collects goods at a Charles Village drop-off.

While the group is motivated by political principles, they do not proselytize at events. "We want to let people shop in peace and dignity. I don't want to be standing over people telling them my freaking politics while they're trying to get new clothes for work," Iris Peppar, a member of the collective, said.

Instead, the store itself is supposed to be instructive. By coming to the store, Void said, "people see there's other ways to do things than the traditional capitalist, consumerist mindset."

"It's fun, it thwarts capitalism, and it pays directly in useful stuff instead of having that useless intermediary, money," Peppar said.

Peppar left to fold clothes and returned wearing a garish pink and purple plaid jacket over her sweatshirt. "I'm done with the Free Store!" she joked. "I'm going to pursue a more meaningful career as a used car salesman."

The idea for the Free Store, Peppar said, was born two years ago among a group of activists taking a train back to Baltimore after visiting a free giveaway in Washington, D.C. To launch their own, they held a "dumpster scavenger hunt," where they searched for usable items in the trash.

"It's very basic — look for a dumpster that has stuff in it, climb in, and see what you can find," Peppar said, adding that

they do not take things from the trash anymore, subsisting instead on donations.

The first Free Store was held in a church. It continued to open sporadically, in different locations, especially during the holidays. The group has become more structured in the past year and is looking for a permanent location.

Anyone may volunteer at the Free Store, but in order to participate in decision-making, a person must be a member of the collective. To join, a volunteer must contribute 60 hours of work in three months and then be voted in by the collective members.

"A collective structure is a really hard model because people aren't used to it. We still have kindergarten issues with sharing and talking nice with people," Void said.

But they all agree that it's worth it. "Community-based activism is the true key to change, and this is a good example of direct action, action for the community by the community," said Lucy Hanley, another member of the collective.

"It will help me," visitor Malik Bucksonel said as he left with his new things.

The Baltimore Free Store will be collecting donations in Charles Village this Saturday, in the alley next to 3221 N. Calvert St. More information can be found at <http://www.freestorebaltimore.org>.

### HOT AT HOPKINS

You know how that weird kid keeps serenading you with a techno version of "Let's Get It On"? That's a way of expressing that you're a fox. Get more strange admirers by e-mailing [features@jhunewsletter.com](mailto:features@jhunewsletter.com).



**Name:** Jon Bernhardt  
**Hometown:** Boca Raton, Fla.  
**Major:** Undecided  
**Year:** 2009

Jon Bernhardt said he has "a very strong back and awesome physical endurance." That's right girls — physical endurance. Now that we have your attention, it's time to spend a long, long time delving deeply into this strapping young stud's personality. Oh yeah.

Aside from stamina, he also claims to be "a generally sweet person to hang around with."

Just beware and don't hang around with this supposed sweetie for too much time (despite all that endurance) because he said, "I usually get bored with relationships or question myself and end up breaking things off."

So ladies, you better keep things spicy with this fickle freshman. One way to accomplish this may be to get a little creative with nature's candy. He claims his weirdest habit is "eating fruit out of dirty, dirty places." And we don't think he's talking about picking up an apple from Terrace's floor.

If you're looking to go banan-

as with this wild man, you'd better fulfill his every desire. "She would have a stunning face, and most importantly be physically fit and have great endurance." He continued, "And, just for kicks, she would be smart, but not argumentative." Perhaps following along this line, he added, "I guess I would just love a hot, submissive sex slave."

After tracking down this dream girl, this Casanova would take a bottle of liquor, get both himself and his date "decently drunk, without risk of either me or the girl throwing up." And the debauchery would progress from there — they'd go "sloppy clubbing" and, upon the evening's end, Jon said, "The night would have to end at my house and, since this is ideal, she would have left my house by the time I wake up."

Well, it should be no surprise that, upon reflecting back on his past romantic gestures, "nothing comes to mind."



**Name:** Preet Grewal  
**Hometown:** Chesterton, Ind.  
**Major:** BME  
**Year:** 2007

Though Preet Grewal claimed that "I'm a nerd and get too busy

relationships," it seems she must still be gettin' busy. That's right, among her many activities, she lists research, volunteering at Shepherd's clinic, HURJ, APO and boys. My, how saucy.

This easygoing hottie said, "It's really hard to make me mad and if you do, I get over it really fast." Well, that makes sense, considering her action-packed (wink wink) schedule.

Though, on occasion, she does take time to indulge her sweet tooth. This sugar mama said her weirdest habit is that "I eat cake backwards, crust first, and if I am sharing, I have to get the tip." Is it just us, or does that sound a little dirty? Maybe it's just Preet's hotness that has our minds in the gutter.

If you're looking to nibble some devil's food with this lady, you've got to be "funny, intelligent, goofy, and ambitious." She also said that boys with hot bodies really get her hungry for some loving.

As for what turns her off, Preet said that it has to be "guys with no balls." Oh man, there's so many possible meanings to that — we're going into innuendo overload.

Assuming you meet Preet's requirements, she's flexible about the rest — even the oh-so-important first date. "As long as we do something in a city on a warm night and it involves cheesecake and good conversation and eventually ends up back at one of our places, I am happy," this foxy female said.

Well guys, it's time to man up and bring a smile to Preet's pretty face.



# Planning the month that opens minds

By SHANNON JACKSON  
The Johns Hopkins News-Letter

"Black History Month doesn't begin each February first and end when the month is over; it continues each and every day throughout the year," said Fallon Ukpe, chair of the Black Student Union Black History Month planning committee. Like others involved in planning the exciting variety of events showcased in this year's Black History Month at Hopkins, she sees this month as an opportunity to reach and educate people at Hopkins and in the greater Baltimore community.

Ukpe, along with BSU Chair-Elects Lauren Parris and Mpepera Simango, have been working since last summer with their adviser Carla Hopkins to prepare a diverse set of events keeping in mind this year's theme, "Roots: Our Universal Heritage."

According to the Director of the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs (OMSA) Rosemary Varner-Gaskins, her office works with the BSU in order to ensure that the events chosen achieve a balance between displaying the fun and social aspects of African American culture while offering opportunities for all to learn from real experiences.

"Ms. Carla Hopkins was truly the one who worked tirelessly — even on evenings and weekends — with Lauren and Mpepera for the past six months," Varner-Gaskins said.

"Mpepera, Lauren and I worked hard to select and plan all events so that they would not be overwhelming," Ukpe said. "Our hope was that these events spark conversations, interest and awareness that would, in the end, bring people together."

The organizers focused their

efforts on showcasing the arts, politics, fashion and literature. Varner-Gaskins said that while Black History Month at Hopkins had fewer events this year than in past years, this year's events possessed more substance. Events were often more socially conscious than in the past, featuring a blood drive, a gospel jubilee and the annual poetry slam. Echoing that trend, this month's speakers included former president of the NAACP Kweisi Mfume and author Bebe Campbell.

"I entered the poetry slam and the atmosphere was warm and vibrant with life. ... I love it when black people, no matter what nationality, come together to chat and be entertained. I love my black people," said freshman Njeri Osborne, who won third place in the competition.

She recounted her experience. "The poem I wrote was in response to a discussion on the representation of black women in hip-hop. These discussions definitely help to stimulate the inspiration process. I love attending these discussions because they aim to reinforce a sense of purpose in all who attend. I would love if there were more poetry slams. I am really proud of my freshman friends who entered. Mo, Joe and Louis were excellent. I really felt their passion."

Published poet Michael J. Burt and other poets from the Washington, D.C., Baltimore and Virginia areas were invited to attend the slam, which was met with wide success from a student body that doesn't always have such creative outlets.

The Blueprint 2 fashion show and after-party last Saturday were particularly popular events



MARK MEHLINGER/FILE PHOTO  
Kweisi Mfume was the opening speaker for this year's Black History Month.

within the month of activities. Featuring student models from both Hopkins and Loyola, a variety of styles paraded the runway, from urban to formal wear. Students from various Baltimore colleges and universities faced the cold weather to support the successful event. The show included a dance portion from some of the female models and a live performance from an up-and-coming songwriter and artist.

Often, Black History Month helps to gear up interest for future organizers of the next year's festivities. This year was no exception, with the planners already analyzing what worked and what fell flat. "For next year, we hope to continue the Blueprint fashion show, and we hope that it will become an annual event like the poetry slam," Ukpe said. "Also we hope to make Black History Month even more successful with diverse, creative events that reach out

to even more people at Hopkins and in Baltimore.

This year's BHM activities are coming to a close with a Peabody Concert Sunday, Feb. 26, in the SDS room in Mattin Center. Osborne is looking for the event to be "relaxed, warm, jazzy, classical, soulful and vibrant." Like others, she is sure that though this event will conclude the month's program here at Hopkins, it will not stop the learning process that leads to different and equally successful Black History Month celebrations every year. For student organizers, the closing of the festivities gives them yet another opportunity to improve and learn.

For many, though, the learning curve runs the opposite direction in the student body. Varner-Gaskins said she still has people ask her why it is necessary that Black History Month be celebrated.

Her response is: "Until we start teaching beyond European history we will always have to have a Black History Month, an Asian Festival, Latino Heritage, etc. We must infuse greater history of every culture in our schools and communities." With every passing year, organizers of the Black History Month try to do just that.

# Egypt trip reveals the ancient world below

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1  
Her job was to record the progress of excavation in her square, along with drawing the important finds, such as a bronze pot and part of a circular granary.

During the three-week excavation, she said that she went through at least 30 pages of notes.

Although Hopkins students and faculty did the recording work, most of the actual digging was done by *qufti*, trained Egyptian archaeologists.

This is required by law in order to guarantee jobs for the local population, Bryan said.

"If you wanted to dig, no one would stop you," Bryan said, "but you still have to hire the workers."

Bryan mentioned the often constant, "very real" tension between the needs of the local people and the work being done on their land.

"We're right on the banks of the fertile land of the Nile, and this country has a lot of people which it needs to feed," she said. "Almost everywhere, archaeology is threatened by the encroachment of agriculture."

The land on which the Mut Temple Precinct is located belongs to the Egyptian Antiquities Service, and they supervise the digging.

Behind the temple dedicated to Mut is a kidney-shaped lake and a large open area that most likely contained domestic dwellings, granaries, bakeries and workshops to support the temple.

The combination of religious and domestic structures offers "great potential

for exploration" and prompted Bryan to choose to work on the site.

The variety of structures also gives graduate students with diverse interests the opportunity to pursue primary research in the same place.

Currently, there are two dissertations in progress. One graduate student, Elaine Sullivan, is working on discovering the purpose of a large building behind the lake, while Elizabeth Waraksa is writing about the nude female figurines found inside the temple.

Waraksa said it is frustrating to discover interesting things on the last day of the dig.

"It seems like just as I am finding walls and artifacts in my trench that help me to understand the use of the space in antiquity, or just when a spectacular discovery is made, it's time to go home," she said.

"But that is both the thrill and the frustration of archaeology. You never know what you are going to find."

For Bryan, the daily surprises of archaeology are what attract her to come back annually. She said that she will probably finish her career working at this site.



COURTESY OF JAY VANRESSELAER  
Hopkins students prepare to measure a plot before digging.

# Wrap it up with condom selections

Word has finally gotten back to me that the Health and Wellness Center is sick of my making fun of their condoms. While I believe it's perfectly legit to make fun of a condom brand that friends have nicknamed "the lead boot," I do feel bad that in recent years I haven't given good alternatives.

Although sex has a lot to do with the bump, grind, tease and rhythm you give it, without a good condom you'll be more preoccupied with consequence than whether you'll get another round.

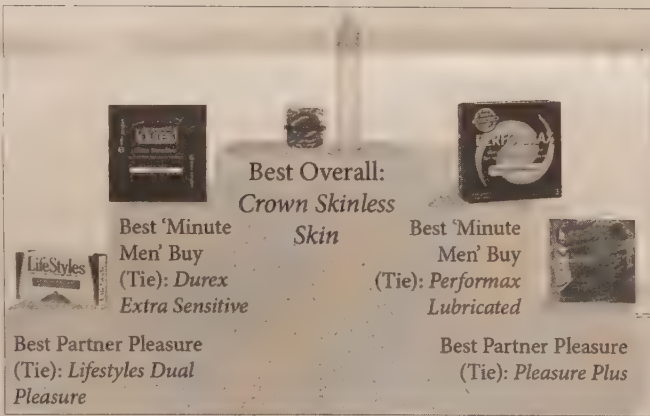
If you haven't quite hit the "safer sex not needed" relationship (those who have gotten tested and are in a long-term, monogamous relationship), one of the best things you can do for your sex life is invest in good condoms.

The most basic thing everyone needs to be aware of with condoms is size — not all latex is created equal. The much hated LifeStyles are made for guys on the smaller side of average. Other types which run small tend to be foreign brands, like Kimonos. For those who don't need to throw down for a box of Trojan Magnums quite yet but could use a little extra room, Durex often run a little bigger.

If you're in desperate need of sex and a bigger condom, try for the TheyFit brand. It's a brand of custom condoms where you literally download and print the rulers from the site ([www.condomania.com](http://www.condomania.com)), allowing you to order custom combinations. They're good condoms, but most people can work with the less expensive one-size-fits-all condoms which offer more variety.

The alternative to latex is polyurethane. It's a bit more expensive than latex but ends up costing a lot less than a latex allergy.

The benefit of departing from tradition is that these newer generations work with oil-based lube (since you can't use oil-based lubes with latex). If you're trying to combine chocolate sauce and



MATT HANSEN/NEWS-LETTER  
Certain condom brands are more popular than others when it comes to benefits.

whipped cream with sex, these would be your weapon of choice. If you're into athletic sex, I'd stick to the latex and lube.

The next consideration is to lube or not to lube. First, ignore all boxes with spermicide or "Nonoxynol-9." Spermicide means that the condoms have shorter shelf-lives. Additionally, condoms with this type of lube are more apt to cause issues requiring upping a woman's cranberry juice consumption.

So on to the important part — the reviews. It's difficult to assign an overall "best" condom because everyone needs something different. The overall best basic thin condoms are the Crown Skinless Skin condoms (don't be fooled — they are latex).

These also have the benefit of not having the latex smell that many condoms do and are tinted sheer pink to work better with more skin tones than the average white pasty raincoats.

A close second and a more popular brand among the college students is the Durex Extra Sensitive Lubricated Latex, as they're some of the thinnest around.

For minutemen there's help. Durex has a top performer in this category as well, the Performax Lubricated. If you still can't pull yourself away from the trusted Trojan branding, there's also the Trojan Extended Pleasure Climax, which will get you to the same place — slowly. Ideally running through baseball stats

should work, but if it doesn't, these condoms will add an extra few minutes to any night. Some companies went back to the drawing board and made new shapes instead of textures.

For example, LifeStyles came out with the Dual Pleasure condom, which kind of looks like a lightbulb on top. You don't have sex for the aesthetics, so don't buy condoms with that criterion either, since this one is a great feeling condom for guys and girls.

After all, you really shouldn't be looking at condoms all that closely anyway. LifeStyles Dual Pleasure provides more headroom than the normal shaped condoms and will increase feeling for both women and men.

Another top-rated condom is the Pleasure Plus condom. It's the same idea as the Dual Pleasure but a different brand. Both add room to increase friction for women, but Pleasure Plus improved this idea and put internal ribs in the condom — at least some brands remember the guys.

It's been getting great reviews from both sides of the condom. If a girl is in need of more intense stimulation, turn to condoms with more ribbing like the Durex Mutual Pleasure (ribs and studs).

Finally, for those who haven't quite moved onto toys but need to take baby steps, check out the Trojan Vibrating Ring.

Think sex with a human vibrator. Each pack comes with a condom (although you can use whichever condom you want) and ring with a small plastic-covered battery pack attached. It's put at the base of the penis and then turned on for vibration. If you're one who's never been a big fan of condoms, try this pairing to change your mind.

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FEATURES

# Laidback lounge revels in hookah culture

Our first in a series of articles on the nightlife of Baltimore showcases a relaxing evening with everyone's favorite Middle Eastern delicacy.

By MELISSA ARTNAK  
The Johns Hopkins News-Letter

Ambiance is the first word that comes to mind upon entering the Zeeba Lounge. With its dimmed lighting, relaxing music and comfortable seating, Zeeba is a welcome, classier break from the usually crowded, frenetic nightlife scene. Perhaps part of the reason for the laid-back vibe of Zeeba is because it is a Middle Eastern-themed hookah lounge — the kind of place that's made for groups of friends to sit and relax while smoking hookah, which is a supposedly non-addictive combination of mostly fruit molasses and a little bit of tobacco.

The first, and most obvious, attractor of Zeeba is the quality of the hookah itself. Aficionados will be pleased by the smoothness of the sheesha and the subtlety of the flavors (the words "harsh" or "rough" will rarely be uttered within the walls of Zeeba). The less experienced will be grateful that, upon inhaling, they don't feel any unpleasant tickle in their throats. Every patron will be impressed by the range of flavors available on the menu, which varies on different nights. Each hookah is estimated to be enough for four people, but germophobes don't need to worry about passing the mouthpiece around the table because individual plastic coverings are given to everyone, so it's all sanitary.

Even if smoking isn't your thing, it's still possible to have a good time at Zeeba, assuming the ubiquitous cloud of secondhand smoke isn't an issue. Either as accompaniments to the hookah or as a substitute for smoking, there are numerous appetizer and dessert options, including a delicious hummus (complete with soft pita triangles for dipping) and dolma (stuffed grape leaves). If you need



Bellydancers drift among the hookah smoke at Zeeba Lounge, enjoying the Middle Eastern vibe that this low-key spot offers.

a little extra help staying up into the wee hours of the morning (as is inevitable when you take full advantage of Zeeba), their Turkish coffee will keep even the most tired eyes wide open.

Underclassmen will be glad to learn that, unlike most of Federal Hill's offerings, you don't need to be 21 to make it through Zeeba's doors. They don't serve alcohol here, but it is BYOB if you are legally allowed to drink (beware of the bottle fees, though). There's a sub shop down the block where you can buy a six pack or two, so forgetting to bring the bubbly in a sketchy paper bag to Zeeba isn't the end of the world. Just be aware that the staff is very vigilant about checking IDs, even if half of your party is 21 and the rest is not. It's not really the type of place where people get stumbling drunk anyway, so if you try and help the staff out by following the rules, your night will not be ruined in the process. Plus, there aren't any rules against some innocent pre-

cab ride pregameing.

The staff at Zeeba is incredibly accommodating. Even the largest of parties will be seated as quickly as possible. Though the establishment is rather small, its size is deceptive — a surprising amount of people can fit into the lounge. There seems to be an endless amount of small, backless chairs that the staff will bring out, so that groups of friends don't need to split up.

Included in the staff of waitresses and bouncers is a bellydancer or two. Though the presence of a scantily-clad, gyrating woman may or may not be considered a good thing to everyone, it's undeniable that she adds to the overall, Middle Eastern-themed atmosphere of Zeeba. If the energy of the place seems to be dying, she'll try to inspire a little craziness by urging people to dance or clap along to the music. Anyone with loudmouth friends who is celebrating a birthday can pretty much expect to be "dance-at-

tacked" by the peppy bellydancer.

There's no way to describe the overall crowd at Zeeba in some all-encompassing manner. For the most part, it seems to be college-aged kids (probably ones who couldn't sneak their fakes past bouncers at Federal Hill's many bars) — couples out on dates, small groups of friends and larger parties, often there to celebrate a birthday or two. It's not really the place to meet new people or score a date because each group sticks to itself and mingling is minimal. People at Zeeba are there to have a fun, relaxing night of hookah smoking with their friends — not to make out with a stranger.

As long as you enjoy (or at least tolerate) hookah smoking and don't have some strong moral opposition to bellydancers, a night at Zeeba Lounge will be a low-key outing that maintains a sense of extra sophistication that's often lacking in the Baltimore college nightlife scene.

# Diffusing arguments to provide for local peace

By GAYA MURUGAPPAN  
The Johns Hopkins News-Letter

Douglas has had better times. Like many of the unemployed men he spends his days with, Doug tangled early with drugs, which led to estrangement from his family and, later on, his friends. He admits that what he needed most was someone to step in and help resolve the arguments that erupted because of his drug use. "Yeah, I could've definitely used someone who could have come in and helped us work out some of our real bad times," he said.

For people like Doug, who often need intervention before they fall into homelessness or lose their job, the Baltimore-based Community Mediation Program is there. And now, thanks to the Center for Social Concern, Hopkins students have an opportunity to participate in a make-it or break-it period in the life of someone who needs it most by becoming mediators themselves. An alternative Spring Break program, sponsored by the Center for Social Concern and the Community Mediation Program, is offering students an opportunity to learn mediation skills in hopes that they might become mediators in the program after an intensive week-long course.

Created eight years ago by Hopkins student Lorig Charkoudian, the Community Mediation Program steps in between parties who are struggling over the arguments that define everyday life: rent payments, relationships (the CMP includes "love triangles and friendships turned sour" in this category), noise disputes, custody issues and business arguments. A mediator enters the picture by bringing the two parties to a neutral space where they can talk over their grievances away from the pressures of their neighborhood.

Many participants in the program are referred from court. Still,

some who are unable to call a lawyer and desire to work through a problem themselves will call the program voluntarily.

Conversations that occur during the mediation process are confidential in order to lend the participants a sense of safety. Confidentiality is broken only in extreme cases of violence or abuse, in which case law enforcement authorities are involved. All conversations occur mutually, with mediators serving only to facilitate conversation and dialogue, not to counsel or advise.

For many who are involved in the program as mediators, the rewards are as tangible as those who rely on the program. Jennifer Gumpert, a Jesuit volunteer in a domestic Peace Corps program that stationed her at the a Baltimore mediation center, explained, "I was so blessed. I could not have asked for a better place. This [program] is such a wonderful peace promotion tool."

A mediator with the program for six months now, Gumpert is halfway through her stay at the CMP. "I give the participants so much credit for facing their problems and trying to work towards a solution," she said.

People like Gumpert have made a tangible difference in the Waverly neighborhood, where the Greenmount program is based. A nurse at the nearby Community Pharmacy, who asked not to be named, credited the program for making inroads into the community's youth. "I see lots of kids coming and going from there," she said. "They're doing a very good thing for the community. It really has a noticeable impact if you live around here."

Douglas agreed. "I used to live in the area, and I tell you, a few years ago, they really needed something. A whole generation was stuck in violence. But now, with these programs, the neighborhood's getting better."

## ATTENTION ALL KSAS JUNIORS

Don't Lose Your Senior Priority for Fall 2006 Registration!

To register for Fall 2006 classes, you must complete the Junior Clearance process

between March 1<sup>st</sup> and March 31<sup>st</sup>.

You will not be able to register for Fall 2006 classes until this is done.

Junior Clearance is the following process:

1. Obtain an unofficial transcript from the Registrar.
2. Complete a Degree Audit Checklist for each major (primary, secondary) and minor you intend to complete by graduation. Declare all second majors and complete a Declaration of Minor Form for each minor. Minor forms are available online at [www.advising.jhu.edu](http://www.advising.jhu.edu) or in the Office of Academic Advising.
3. Take the completed form to your faculty advisor in the major/minor (or advising coordinator in \* majors below) for his/her review, and have the form signed by the faculty advisor if the information is correct. **Have your faculty advisor remove your registration hold, too.**
4. Bring all major or minor forms (signed by the faculty advisor first!) to the Office of Academic Advising during the following hours **between March 1<sup>st</sup> and March 31<sup>st</sup>** (No appointments necessary):

Wednesdays (1pm – 7pm)  
Thursdays (10am – 4pm)  
Fridays (10am - 4pm)

An advisor will be available during those hours to review your checklists and help you complete the Application to Graduate form. Come in anytime during Spring Break.

JUNIOR CLEARANCE CAN ONLY BE DONE DURING THESE HOURS.

When you complete the junior clearance process and have all forms correctly filed in OAA, you will be able to register for Fall 2006 classes beginning on April 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Who, me?** Yes, ALL KSAS students planning to graduate Fall 2006 or May 2007. EN students with double majors or minors in KSAS also are required to complete this process for their KSAS major or minor.

The fine print: All majors and minors must be properly declared and all checklists completed at the time of the submitting documents to OAA. Any supporting documentation, such as evidence of completion of language requirements or approval for use of transfer credits toward a major/minor requirement must all be in order. You must be done with the process such that you will not need to return to our office to "finish up" at another time. If you are uncertain what this might mean – you are welcome to call and ask. Those who do not complete the process by March 31<sup>st</sup> must make an appointment to complete the process and we cannot guarantee appointment availability before April 17<sup>th</sup>. **What if you are not planning to graduate next year?** Students with JUNIOR standing who are intending to graduate after May, 2007 must email the appropriate OAA advisor, but do not need to complete the junior clearance process now.

Goodyear@jhu.edu:	Public Health Studies
Raranow@jhu.edu:	International Studies*, Political Science*, Music Minor, and Natural Science Area
Sanders@jhu.edu:	Ancient Law Minor, Anthropology, Cognitive Science, Linguistics Minor, Earth and Planetary Science, East Asian Studies, Environmental Studies minor, Environmental Earth Sciences minor, Writing Seminars, Theater Minor
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\*Students with these majors or minors should see the advising coordinator to have their checklist signed, not their faculty advisor.

For More Info: Contact the Office of Academic Advising at (410) 516-8216



# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## Jazz pianist brings skill to An Die Musik

In a free-flowing evening show, prolific Jazz Fusion veteran Larry Willis indulges his specialty for innovative chord technique

By JAMES MCIVER  
The Johns Hopkins News-Letter

Modern jazz has been known to blow minds, but lucky audience members at An Die Musik this past Saturday discovered firsthand that it can even blow fuses. Larry Willis, a modern jazz piano legend, rolled in to play with the Al Maniscalco Trio, a Baltimore combo who are bringing in jazz greats for a series with An Die Musik. This is an event you do not want to miss.

An Die Musik, located in Mt. Vernon, is an exercise in contradiction. The juxtaposition of the high-backed, plush Victorian arm chairs set out for the audience with the bright canary yellow walls immediately excited me, making me think that I was in some sort of time-warped throne room for Louis XIV.

The venue also has a record store, with an excellent jazz selection, a wine bar and a photo gallery.

The audience radiated "Old Baltimore" vibes — it was clear that these people had spent their entire lives deeply rooted in Baltimore jazz. Everywhere people were discussing previous concerts around town and talking with the manager about upcoming shows.

A little man dressed as a cat burglar with a British accent formally introduced the performers as if he were introducing a string quartet to a group of diplomats. The quartet opened with the crooner classic "I've Never Been in Love Before" — but this was no Frank Sinatra performance.

The post-bop styling of Willis and Maniscalco (alto sax) surrounded the audience with a soundscape of winding chromatic melodies and intricate chord harmonies — modern jazz at its best.

Willis is a master on the piano, delivering a perfect mix between high speed, technical modal lines and beautiful, lyrical statements



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.SMOKEYJAZZ.COM](http://www.smokeyjazz.com)  
Having worked with the greatest names in his genre, pianist Larry Willis brought his distinct style to Mount Vernon last week.

in his improvisation. His use of modal sequences and patterns screams Herbie Hancock, whom he honored on *Tribute to Someone*, released in 1993. Not many people can play like that.

Occasionally, Willis would stack suspended chords in the left hand, creating a droning, open, dissonant sound. This technique was made famous by McCoy Tyner in order to allow more "creative" improvisational flexibility. Willis got more than creative.

He redefined tonality, playing high-speed atonal, chromatic hannels that would somehow perfectly resolve back into the tonal spectrum. In "Brother Ed," one of Willis' compositions, he even went as far to lean inside the piano and strum the strings during the bass solo, performed fantastically by Jeff Reed.

Willis, a jovial, round man, is a delight to watch. He sat com-

pletely still while playing, his head sometimes slightly vibrating, as if he were having a mild seizure. Then "WHAM!" — he would play a chord and almost fly off the bench, as if being hit by a tidal wave of sound.

Surprisingly, Willis did not enter the music scene as a pianist, but as a voice major at New York's High School of Music and Art for gifted students. His senior year in high school, he began teaching himself how to play piano. Within months he was playing professional jazz gigs with two of his classmates.

At age 19, he was playing with Jackie McLean, a legendary alto saxophone player. In 1965 Willis landed his first recording date with McLean on *Blue Note*, and his career skyrocketed.

Toward the end of the performance, the cat burglar man began waving at the quartet to stop playing; the next show started in a few minutes. Being devoted jazz musicians, they of course did not stop playing, which came back to bite them when they blew a fuse about 30 seconds into "Heavy Blue", one of Willis' more famous charts.

Astoundingly, they continued to play this up-tempo, hard bop

tune in pitch darkness, completely unfazed — everyone assumed it was part of the act.

This fuse-blowing jazz experience only got better as a Baltimore City Police helicopter could be seen through the half moon windows above the stage flying back and forth ... the perfect Baltimore moment.

After the thunderous applause, Willis comically reminded Maniscalco to tell the audience to buy his new CD *The Big Push*. I did.

Willis has recorded with Lee Morgan, Dizzy Gillespie, Cannonball Adderly, Stan Getz, Art Blakey and countless other jazz greats, on over 300 records. In the 70s, Willis was a leading contributor in Jazz Fusion, then in hard bop in the 80s and 90s.

Today he tours with his own Trio and Quintet and is the musical director of Mapleshade Records.

The cat burglar man apologized for the power failure. Everyone filed out of the throne room guided by the emergency lights, side by side with the musicians. Watching Willis struggle down the dark aisle with the rest of us made me realize that this jazz deity was human after all.

## Baltimore punk-rockers cope with shifting ethics

By STEPHANIE YU  
The Johns Hopkins News-Letter

As soon as the second quarter of last year's Orange Bowl ended, pop sensation Ashlee Simpson stormed the stage for her halftime show, her legs shrink-wrapped in skin-tight black leather. Her naturally blonde hair was dyed an intense shade of midnight, her hands were adorned in fingerless biker gloves, and she was flanked by a team of gothic cheerleaders. The pop starlet only performed two songs, but within her six-minute set had managed to define everything wrong with the modern perception of punk culture.

Simpson, a darling of the music industry, had been fashioned to look like a stereotypical "punk."

Nolen Strals, the lead singer of Baltimore hardcore band Double Dagger, scoffs, "The word punk? I mean, who knows what the hell it means anymore. Younger kids are thinking they're punk when they've never gotten sweaty in a basement with a bunch of people playing music." It seems that in recent times, almost everyone has forgotten what the word "punk" originally stood for.

According to Alex Hooper-Hodson's dissertation on punk music, pure punk was "about making the best of what you had, and not always aspiring to lifestyle choices that were governed by money. You didn't need expensive clothes, good looks, or even musical talent. You just had to want to make your voice heard."

However, in the modern age, with the threat of commercialism always biting at the heels of aspiring musicians, the punk image has been bastardized to the point where the fashion overrides everything else: the ideals, the people and the music.

But things were not always like that.

It's hard to believe that the pyrotechnics and pretension of Simpson's half time stunt found its roots in the underground nightclubs of New York City. Punk first hit the U.S. in the 1970s, worming its way into the heart of New York. Like the spark at the head of a train of matches, punk trail-blazed its way down the East coast, eventually hitting Washington, D.C. and neighboring Baltimore at the end of the decade.

Strals, 27, is part of a DIY (do-it-yourself) hardcore scene in Baltimore that has been ebbing and flowing since the genre developed from the New York punk movement. In the 90s, Baltimore hardcore grew, new bands, new sounds and new makeshift venues popped up around the city, causing the scene to come close to explosion around the new millennium. In 2002, Baltimore hardcore was experiencing a golden age.

But recently, the local scene has been declining. The bands have grown up, the venues have shut down and the audience has gotten tired. "Kids were jumping on boxcars to get to their shows three years ago, you

CONTINUED ON PAGE B8



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.POSTTYPOGRAPHY.COM/DOUBLEDAGGER](http://www.posttypography.com/doubledagger)  
The members of Double Dagger rank among Baltimore's hardcore punk vanguard.

## Peabody Orchestra gives life to Brahms and Beethoven

By SASHA KOZLOV  
The Johns Hopkins News-Letter

The Miriam A. Friedberg Concert Hall of the Peabody Conservatory was packed on Saturday night with a buzzing audience eagerly anticipating what was destined to be an intensely satisfying performance.

The program began with Johannes Brahms' Piano Concerto No. 1 in D minor, performed by pianist Benjamin Kim as part of his prize for winning the Yale Gordon Concerto Competition. His own teacher, pianist Leon Fleisher, conducted the Peabody Symphony Orchestra. Upon first flight of Fleisher's baton, he was able to establish an impeccable musical pulse, which remained unyielding throughout each movement of the work. After the orchestra's portent opening, Kim entered with transcendent gusto.

The chemistry between teacher and student was immediately clear and at times electrifying. Every nuance, though passionate with the energy of performance and Brahms' incredible composition, was flawlessly calculated. Fleisher possessed something of a bird's eye view of the work as a whole, matched exactly with that of Kim's vision of the piece. Together with the orchestra, they created a painting full of the chocolate brown chords that only Brahms could be responsible for creating.

Kim, who was once quoted describing Fleisher's attitude — "It's all about the music" — gave a performance nothing

short of excellent; the notoriously difficult fiery trills in the first movement were masterfully played, the second movement was delicate and beautiful, full of imagination and poise, and the last movement lead the audience through an adventure full of tragedy and victory. A particularly ethereal moment took place in the cadenza of the second movement. Kim, 22, left the ground and explored a different realm with breathtaking elegance, finally descending with

several delicate passages back to Brahms' reality. Before the orchestra was able to finish its final chords, the audience erupted in a rampant standing ovation.

Following an intermission, the audience returned to another great German composition by Ludwig Van Beethoven — his Symphony No. 7 in A major. As he did with the Brahms, Fleisher immediately established musical pulse, and began to make music. It was interesting to watch Fleisher conduct; at times he seemed to dance on his podium, at other times he strictly pointed at different sections with a stern look upon his face. He led the orchestra through a jovial first movement, and into an incredible second movement. It showcased strength within each instrumental section of the orchestra, as they related through dialogue-like passages, performed with singing elasticity. Though there was an element of tragedy, it was performed as if one were reading of the tragedy — emotionally once removed.

CONTINUED ON PAGE B8

The chemistry between teacher and student was immediately clear and at times electrifying.

## ARTIST SPOTLIGHT: Jake Leckie, Musician

By XIAO-BO YUAN  
The Johns Hopkins News-Letter

Jake Leckie doesn't believe in distinguishing between good and bad music. The prolific senior, who has been tearing through the Hopkins and Baltimore music scenes as a versatile

and in-demand bass player, claims that there's nothing he won't listen to at least once: "I try not to dismiss anything. There's value into being into lots of things."

This polyphonic openness to anything and everything has won Leckie plenty of fans, as well as a mind-boggling array of musical spots. He regularly jams with everyone from the campus alt-country band Sour Mash Bandits to local singer-songwriter Eva Castillo to a Baptist choir in Baltimore.

In the course of a day, he can go from laying down a hip-hop track in a studio to playing free-form jazz with a friend.

"Jake is probably the most talented person I've ever played pop music with," said Sour Mash Bandits lead singer Robbie Whelan, also a senior. "He's musically savvy, and just so openminded and enthusiastic about all kinds of music."

Leckie's big-

gest influences range from bass player Scott LeFaro to jazz legends Charles Mingus and Thelonious Monk, and also include the ska-reggae pioneers the Skatalites. His diverse musical education began early on in his childhood in Brookline, Mass., where he started with the requisite classical piano lessons in first grade.

A turning point came, however, when a 10-year-old Leckie attended a children's music show featuring Boston-area jazz keyboardist Ken Cook. "I was just attracted to his energy on stage. He seemed to be having so much fun," Leckie said. After that show, Leckie began his life-long association with fellow musicians. His friendship with Cook brought him into the worlds of jazz, blues and improvisational music, now his primary passions.

In high school, Leckie made serious forays into jazz band and formed bands with his friends, including one named Mass Hysteria that played all over New England and recorded demos. He credits a close friend, Boston-based drummer Eli Kessler, for being his "biggest musical inspiration." Their fruitful musical relationship would lead Leckie to seek out collaborative opportunities later on, a kind of musician-to-musician mode of creativity he still thrives on. "Eli told me so much about everything," Leckie says. "Looking over and being so in tune with another person — it's a metaphysical experience."

During his junior year, Leckie discovered the upright bass, which has remained his primary instrument.

"I really attached myself to the

upright bass, and really found myself in that instrument," he says. "What I like most about the bass is that it's so versatile. As far as Western music goes, in classical, jazz, rock, bluegrass, whatever, there's always room for an upright bass. It's powerful, and it's fundamental in keeping the groove."

With his upright in tow, Leckie remained active in music when he came to Hopkins, playing in the university jazz ensemble, taking lessons at the Peabody Conservatory and eventually meeting like-minded musicians. However, the moment of truth for Leckie came during his study-abroad semester in Barcelona, when he fully immersed himself in the exploding local scene, playing music every single day. Today, Leckie finds the most satisfaction from his gigs playing for the Eva Castillo Trio, which has a residency at the 8x10 Club as a weekly featured act.

He has also gotten involved as a studio musician and producer, drawing inspiration from the lo-fi work of Lee "Scratch" Perry, a Jamaican dub artist and producer. After graduation, Leckie is headed to Peabody for a two-year program in production. And as for the future? Leckie isn't really concerned.

"Everyone here is always looking to the future, what they're going to be doing. I'm worried about this weekend," he says. "My mission is to bring people together through music, get people knowing other people. The community aspects of music are most rewarding for me."



COURTESY OF JAKE LECKIE  
Bass player Jake Leckie takes pride in his versatile style.



# Updated Shandy explores showbiz dynamics

By PATRICK KENNEDY  
The Johns Hopkins News-Letter

Turning a book, any book, into a movie is usually a sure-fire way to boost its sales. Thanks to their big-screen versions, no airport or card shop book display is any longer complete without a few dozen paperbacks worth of *Memoirs of a Geisha* or *Lord of the Rings*. Despite all this, I have a funny feeling that director Michael Winterbottom's recent adaptation of Lawrence Sterne's *The Life and Opinions of Tristram Shandy*, *Gentleman* won't do much to help the 18th century novelist's current market. The modern reader may be predictably unwilling to slog through several hundred pages worth of presumptuous discourse on the English countryside. But until now, it would have been equally hard to imagine any sane director willingly taking up an enigmatic, experimental period piece like Sterne's book.

But Winterbottom and his cast have developed an ingenious solution. Rather than a clean cut adaptation — the kind of to-the-word mangling often seen on public television — this *Tristram Shandy* is a movie about *Tristram Shandy*. Confusing? Of course. Yet, considering the wit with



Rob Brydon and Gillian Anderson play 18th-century aristocrats in an innovative take on Lawrence Sterne's "unfilmable" novel.

which Winterbottom and his cast explore such a convoluted premise, there's a lot to like about this medium-conscious, exceedingly good-natured piece of cinema.

As the film opens, we find Tristram (Steve Coogan) trotting about his estate and talking about the events that led up to his birth. The lead's narration, full of digressions and convoluted scenarios, is intermixed with footage of his uncle Toby (Rob Brydon), a war veteran who has set up a scale model of the battle where he was wounded in his garden. Don't get too comfortable — just when the story seems to be picking up steam, the camera cuts away and reveals a full movie crew, jolting you into the modern world and complicating the context of our earlier encounters

When we leave the movie-within-a-movie behind, much of the action in *Tris-*

*tram Shandy* centers on Coogan (playing himself), who has to endure, among other things, pre-tentious historical costumes and Brydon's jockeying for a more prominent role. Their competition is surprisingly benign for a behind-the-scenes intrigue, riding more on a preening, uniquely British wit than anything else. With a dutiful girlfriend (Kelly MacDonald), a new baby and a small media scandal brewing around him, Coogan winds up playing the straight man to Brydon's preening fixation on everything from the state of his teeth to where his name appears in the credits.

For some reason, Winterbottom never really mines the comic potential of this situation. Nor does he make enough of the hilarious fact that, of all the people making *Tristram Shandy*, almost none have read Sterne's book. The

only person familiar with the original text is a production assistant named Jennie (Naomie Harris), who provides, among other things, a forbidden love interest for Steve. It's exactly the brand of kindly-conceived, well-intentioned role that is thoroughly out of place in the pompous wit that animates the film.

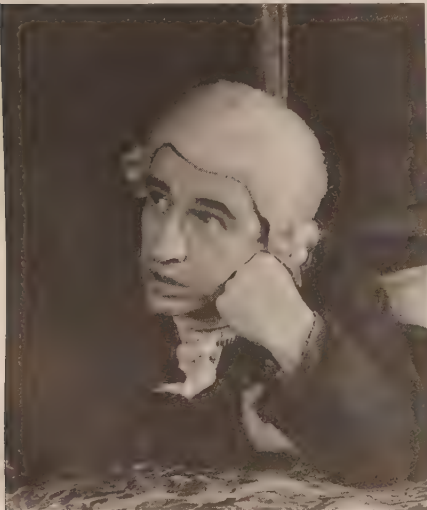
Indeed, there are some hilarious shots. My personal favorite, during the lead up to Tristram's birth, involves spliced shots of servants running around aimlessly, Tris-

tram's mother (Keeley Hawes) screaming in labor pains, and a collision between two men on horses. However, in packing so much mayhem into the early shots, the film threatens to exhaust its comic intelligence. By the time we get around to the more elaborate gags, like one

CONTINUED ON PAGE B8

## TRISTRAM SHANDY

**Starring:** Steve Coogan, Rob Brydon, Kelly MacDon-ald, Naomie Harris, Gillian Anderson  
**Director:** Michael Winterbot-tom  
**Run Time:** 1 hr 31 mins  
**Rating:** R  
**Playing at:** The Charles Theatre



In the comedy *Tristram Shandy*, Steve Coogan depicts both the title character and his own modern persona.

# Harrowing Caché rife with social suspicion

By SIMON WAXMAN  
The Johns Hopkins News-Letter

Anne and Georges Laurent (Juliette Binoche and Daniel Auteuil) are a French couple living the good life. They have a nice house, a son, good friends, good jobs and few worries of particular note. But one day, they find a strange parcel containing a tape on their porch.

*Caché*, directed by the prolific Michael Haneke, opens with a shot of the aforementioned house from some distance away down a typical Paris side street. As we soon see, this is, in fact, the contents of the tape, which we are informed lasts two hours. Anne and Georges are quite reasonably disturbed by this video. Is it a practical joke? A bit of harmless mischief? At first they suspect their son Pierrot (Lester Makedonsky) of some role in the nefarious deed, but as the number of tapes mounts and their subject matter shifts from still shots of the Laurent house to Georges' childhood home and other locales, his suspicions shift

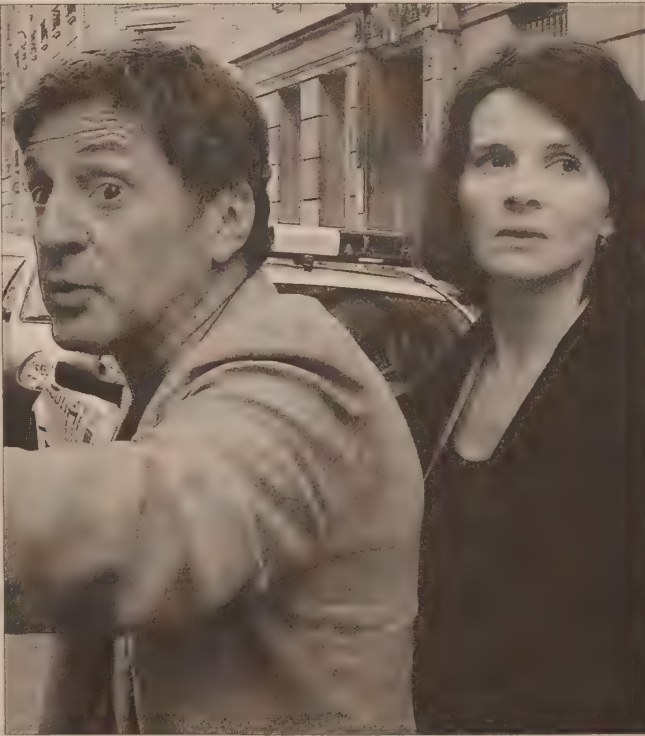
deftly displayed in a scene in which Georges visits his ailing mother (Annie Girardot).

*Caché* is a highly literate and thematically rich film. Messages abound. The script is rife with political implications regarding race relations in Western Europe and the legacy of colonialism. Georges Laurent is a Frenchman come into conflict with once-conquered Algerians, perhaps the movie's most straightforward motif. However, *Caché* is simultaneously a relationship drama (since Anne might be having an affair), rumination on family dynamics and a great deal more. Even a solipsistic undercurrent asserts itself as Georges' dreams begin to invade reality.

The most consistently expressed thematic element, I think, is the contingent power of the image, by which I mean that the context in which something is imaged has a tremendous impact on the way it is perceived. It is no mere coincidence that Georges hosts a successful television program — which, as it happens, is devoted

to discussion of literature, a format possible in France, but totally foreign to Americans — or that in various scenes TV news is visible in the background and sometimes more prominently. While the beleaguered parents watch their son's swimming tournament they are flanked by two youths with handheld video cameras; again, not a mere accident.

*Caché* is an exploration in voyeurism. The fact that the film is shrouded mystery elicits favorable comparisons to Hitchcock, who also delved deeply into the implications of both being the spy and being spied upon, particularly in *Rear Window*. But Ca-



Daniel Auteuil and Juliette Binoche play a prosperous couple in the drama *Caché*.

*ché* retains a distinct visual impact and will tease out emotions that even Hitchcock never really examined as its unconventional narrative unfurls. There are moments in *Caché* that will absolutely shock you, leave you staring in wonderment, mouth agape.

One emotion you may experience in the course of viewing *Caché*, though perhaps in few other films, is a profound sense of guilt. In a movie about people being monitored against their will, the viewer cannot help but feel somewhat complicit in the act. A family, seemingly undeservingly, is corrupted by these simple images of their daily lives, yet the viewer is invited into their most intimate quarters. We are witness to an intense pain itself the result of witness.

Haneke's film is thoroughly engrossing, partially because it is so layered with meaning, but also thanks to the performances of Binoche and Auteuil, two of France's premiere actors. Binoche, the better known of the two in the U.S., is a veteran of the acclaimed *Trois Couleurs* series of films, and

Auteuil is every bit a master of his craft. Every crease of the mouth and slight twitch of the neck speaks volumes with these two. Bénichou, too, is exquisite, playing his role with a kind of tangible melancholy that only adds to the movie's emotional effect. They, along with Haneke, who won a much-deserved award for direction for *Caché* at the Cannes Film Festival, guide the viewer through this harrowing and sophisticated tale with aplomb.

One of the most remarkable elements of *Caché* is that it never stops paying off. It is perplexing, creepy, dense and deliberate. It is both subtle and sensational during every second. As the title indicates, so much remains hidden from the viewer, but there is no escaping the image, made all the more acute by the absence of a sound track. Is the mystery resolved? Perhaps. But you won't know until the absolute bitter end, which you must watch through the final credit, and even then not with any certainty. *Caché* demands that you think. You would do well to comply.

# New Vibrations

Destroyer  
Destroyer's  
Rubies  
Merge  
Feb. 21, 2006



Destroyer's *Rubies* is the latest album to receive the "best new music" blessing from the brutal minds at Pitchfork Media. This album carefully channels equal parts Velvet Underground and The Shins while avoiding the prissiness associated with "indie rock." Despite a delicate temperament, Destroyer includes enough gritty guitar and drum action to garner a true "indie rock" tag.

The record starts off with a title track of nearly ten minutes that wanders around between lighter indie fare and scorching, anthemic teen-rock. It then bounces back with the lighthearted, piano-driven "Your Blood" and the mature "European Oils" with its Flaming Lips-esque steel guitar. This third track is arguably the strongest on the album, with a beautifully round chorus of vocals and sweeping piano runs.

Keeping with the theme of a mature avant-indie band, Destroyer continues into "Painter In Your Pocket" and "Looter's Follies," the former a standard but

well put-together acoustic track and the latter an altered time-signature masterpiece. Even without a unique sound, "Looters" is great because it is something familiar done very, very well.

The second half of *Rubies* begins with the muted but powerful "3,000 Flowers" and the slow burn of "A Dangerous Woman Up to a Point." In both, all of the instruments flow together, giving a full-bodied yet clear sound. The final three tracks share this similar style and highlight the more rock-based aspects of the band. The last song, "Priest Learns to Last Forever" combines the lost soul of Bob Dylan with the lighter, bluesier elements of Led Zeppelin.

The album is cohesive but not clearly glued together, and never really defines a "Destroyer" sound. Some would see that as a lack of originality, others as a sign of versatility.

—John Lichtefeld

Belle & Sebastian  
The Life Pursuit  
Matador Records  
Feb. 7, 2006



Ten years ago, Belle & Sebastian released their sophomore effort, *If You're Feeling Sinister*, the album that cemented their cult status. Between then and now were some serious disappointments but for each letdown there was, always enough catchy, bubblegum goodness to keep listeners hoping for a satisfying follow-up.

With *The Life Pursuit*, Stuart Murdoch and his band finally make good on the promise of their groundbreaking second release. Shot through with single-worthy tracks, this is the kind of album that should be required listening for any Spring Break road trip. The taunting call-and-response of "White Collar Boy" early on is matched by the unabashed, old-fashioned good times of the second-to-last track, "For the Price of a Cup of Tea." Murdoch also mines standard rock 'n' roll on "The Blues are Still Blue," which dresses up a conventional guitar riff with goofy vocal synths and snarky, macho lyrics. "Sukie in the Graveyard" is quintessential Belle & Sebastian: a quirky protagonist

and an irresistible hook.

As always, Belle & Sebastian have some new tricks, too. In the indie search for all things knowingly peppy and kitsch, "Song for Sunshine" digs up some seriously cheesy funk and turns it into a slow jam. The melancholy of "Dress Up in You" recalls much of *If You're Feeling Sinister*, but, unlike earlier, similar works, it is also a perfect pop gem.

Even cynics and skeptics will have a hard time disliking *The Life Pursuit*. It's easy to dismiss sincerity and preciousness, and there are plenty of people who associate 'pop' with everything wrong with music. These sorts of people would do well to follow the example of the heroine in "Act of the Apostles" — done right, as it is here, pop can be a religious experience.

—Amy Sheeran

Madonna  
Confessions on a  
Dance Floor  
Warner Brothers  
Dec. 12, 2005



Madge is back and once again, reinvented. On *American Life*, she flexed her rapping muscles and thankfully for us, she has now moved onto disco which is somewhat less disturbing than listening to her rhyme "Minnie-Cooper" with "super duper."

That being said, *Confessions on a Dance Floor* is nothing special. It isn't the lyrical wasteland that her last album was, nor does it deliver the solid songs that 2000's *Music* gave us. It is a mediocre dance album at best. Like the refrain on the album's second track, "Sorry," says: "I've heard it all before."

"Hung up" is the first single off of *Confessions*. It's catchy and fun even if it does sound like one of those Crazy Frog Ringtones commercials. It's a throwback to Madonna's early years and her frustrations with a crush who refuses to call. The song marks a decent start and doesn't claim to be anything more than it is: a dance floor request. However, the next two songs are lackluster at best, and the spoken lyrics of "Future Lovers" are awkward. The tempo picks up with "I Love New York," which is faster-paced and more in-

tense than the others. Its lyrics are nothing to blog about but the song is fun and hopefully will be the next single off of the album.

The rest of the album jumps around from themes of love to life as a world famous pop star. Two or three of the more indistinct songs sound like every other gloomy techno song coming out of Europe right now. "Jump" comes later in the album and sounds promising. It has the attitude to replace "Since U Been Gone" as every girl's liberating song of the year.

In all honesty, Madonna disappoints. This album seems to be more of what she wants. A dancer and club-girl at heart, it seems that Madonna has taken control over the twilight of her career and marched very much to her own beat. Whether or not that beat is embraced by the wider public is yet to be seen, but Madonna has pulled it off before and I wouldn't put it past her not to do it again.

—Alex Begley



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

# Do-it-yourself punk music aspires to Charm City renown

The Art Space provides a potent but precarious venue for unconventional home-grown rock

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B6  
don't see that anymore. There's an energy that isn't there," says Ryan McElroy, a patron of the Charm City Art Space, one of the remaining DIY stages in Baltimore.

Interpretations for the slump in the movement range from person to person. Art Space owner Mike Riley says there's no problem with the scene, that punk naturally comes in waves. The genre's mantras of anarchy and anti-establishment are simply too impractical and are usually outgrown. Most DIY bands end up breaking even rather than profiting. On their last tour, Strals admits that Double Dagger ended up losing money after gas and other various expenses. To get by, he currently holds a day job as a graphic designer for City Paper.

The DIY ethic that permeates punk culture may be one of its main tenets, but also is one of its main downfalls. "It's more rewarding to make something than to buy something," explains McElroy. "All of us are making

the things we want to see in the world: we're not content to line up and buy what's sold to us." According to Strals, "When I was a teenager and DIY was first shown to me, I was like, 'Holy crap, what *can't* I do?'" But the DIY ethic inherently causes problems. Because bands do not perform at established venues, they make their own unwarranted spaces, leading to a constant battle with local authorities. "[In the beginning] places were shutting 'down everywhere," says Mike Riley. "Venues like the Ottobar and the Sidebar became less and less willing to start out smaller bands." As a result, the Charm City Art Space was founded in 2002. Riley credits pure luck and the Art Space's zoning as an "art gallery" as the reasons they have evaded closure.

The self-destructive nature of the DIY ethic is not the only thing to blame for the recent slump in Baltimore punk music — the fans themselves are at fault. According to Strals, the Art Space holds monthly meetings to discuss is-

suues facing the local scene, but they are usually poorly attended. He recalls that the best turnout was right after the Bloodshed, a local powerhouse DIY venue, was shut down by the Fire Marshall in 2003. "When the Bloodshed closed, it was a big deal," says Strals. "It supported the bands that couldn't play at the Talking Head or the Ottobar but still needed a big room." Members and non-members alike packed into the close quarters of the Art Space to address the concern.

But things have changed. "At this point all the venues have been around, so people are used to it," says Strals. "There's no excitement. There was urgency before with all the venues that were closing. It was like, 'We all have to get together to do this. We have to keep it going, get the music out before they shut us down.'"

"Maybe we need another scare," he laughs. "You know, to remind people that it's important."

Perhaps what threatens the punk scene the most is not the



COURTESY OF CHARM CITY ART SPACE  
Charm City Art Space plays host to numerous local punk outfits.

people or the venues but an overall apathy stemming from commercialism. The apathy that plagues the current scene grows from what Strals calls a "Hot Topic" mentality. Hot Topic is a store that sells marketable punk products to teenagers, and Hot Topic punks, represented by singers like Ashlee Simpson, are those who have cashed in on punk fashion but not punk ideals.

At the moment, one of the remaining hopes for Baltimore punk is the Art Space, which has become the starting point for all new punk bands in Baltimore.

Two seconds into a show at the Charm City Art Space, you quickly learn your place: You're either in the audience or you're against the wall. And while the prospect of being the wallflower at a concert may seem like a cop out, the prospect of being part of the audience is a matter of getting more bruises. Watching a show means a full-on confrontation with not only the band (whose members aren't afraid to tackle you mid-performance) but with the writhing, ass-kicking crowd that's trying its best to recreate the frenetic pace of the music.

At a show in the Art Space, one can feel a tactile energy, a faint urgency that's growing again.

Strals reports that Double Dagger is starting work on their next album, set for release sometime next year. In one song, he compares DIY punk with his favorite typeface: Franklin gothic. "The typeface has all these inconsistencies where letters don't make sense. With punk rock it's the same. They're both ugly and flawed, but that's what makes them beautiful." It's a concept that breeds hope, that maybe punk will find its roots again, maybe from the Baltimore scene, maybe from bands like Double Dagger, maybe from a single great show at the Charm City Art Space.

For a genre of music that thrives on dynamics, explosive passion and die-hard dedication, it only takes a small spark to start the fire again. And when the authenticity of punk returns, Strals's lyrics will ring like a manifesto through sweaty basements across the city: "We do it because it's what we were made for/ We do it because there's nothing else/ That feels as right as this!"

# 19th century book turns into smart film comedy

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B7  
scene where Coogan must deliver a monologue from inside a giant plastic uterus, we can only hope and pray that Winterbottom has a few tricks left up his sleeve.

It's the same complaint that goes for Albert Brooks' similarly reflective *Looking for Comedy in the Muslim World*. By cramming their top material into the first half-hour, both free up more time for conceptual exploration. In this regard, *Tristram Shandy* morphs into a surprisingly intelligent commentary on the process of creating a modern film. Like *The Player* or *Adaptation*, it gives its characters plenty of breathing room while stressing how deeply the creative process can immerse them in their material.

And as with *Adaptation*, it is a belated attempt in *Tristram Shandy* to shift towards commercial appeal that proves most revealing. I'm not merely talking about the film's bawdy caption (*A Cock and Bull Story*), but about the maneuverings of Winterbottom's fictional cast and crew to yoke a cameo by Gillian Anderson of *The X-Files*, a big battle sequence and a sentimental revelation by Tristram's father, played by Coogan in a wig, to their otherwise artsy film. We never approach the sublime faux realism of, say, Christopher Guest, in spite of the chemistry that Coogan and Brydon reveal in easy dialogues on everything from middle-age balding to Al Pacino. Though it gets both a little too silly and a little too humane, *Tristram Shandy* redeems itself by daring to weigh in meaningfully about art, life and the exercise in egoism and opportunism that is the making of a modern movie.

# DC Comics revisits indie division classics

Vertigo:  
First Offenses  
November 1,  
2005  
168 Pages

By WILLIAM PARSHALK  
The Johns Hopkins News-Letter

Disregarding the boom over the past several years of manga-influenced comics in the United States, American comic books have generally fallen into either the super-hero category, the independent category, where anything goes, or somewhere in between, like the work that has been consistently pushed by Vertigo, a subdivision of DC Comics.

To DC Comics, Vertigo is a bit like the seedy older brother that never shows up for the family reunion. Their books tend to be a little bit more out there, a little bit more willing to push the boundaries of storyline and censorship than your average Superman story. That is why, throughout the previous two decades, books from the Vertigo line were some of the best-loved, not just by comic book fans but by members of high brow society as well. Vertigo was home to Neil Gaiman's brilliant *Sandman* series and Alan Moore's complex *Swamp Thing*.

Over the past several years, though, Vertigo has been faced with the difficulty of creating another hit comic book series, and with the increase in attention from Hollywood and consumers in the past several years, the pressure has been high to release something that strikes it big. In an attempt to cash in on the recent influx of interested readers, Vertigo has come up with the idea to simply re-release the first issues of some of their best series, in the form of the compendiums *Vertigo: First Offenses* and *Vertigo: First Taste*.

To start off with, both contain different debut issues; *First Offenses* has five and *First Taste* has six, and both are priced in the very favorable \$5 range. The books are loaded with compelling stories, a smart scheme for getting readers interested in looking into these works.

*First Offenses* collects the first issues of *The Invisibles*, *Fables*, *Preacher*, *Sandman Mystery Theatre* and *Lucifer*. *The Invisibles* follows Dane McGowan, an angst-filled young man growing up in Liverpool, England. McGowan suffers from a power that allows him to see ghosts, particularly very important figures like John Lennon. After bombing his school with Molotov cocktails, he is sent to a correctional facility called Harmony House, where all is not as it seems. McGowan soon discovers the headmaster of Harmony House is conducting lobotomies on the inmates. Just as McGowan is about to be confronted about

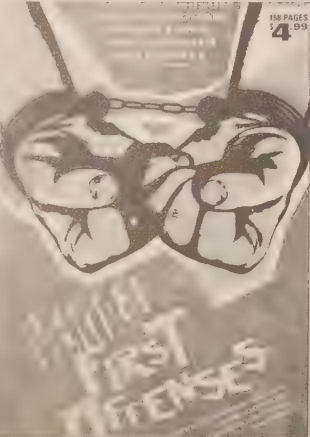
his discovery, he encounters a member of the mysterious underground guerrilla cell known as the Invisibles.

*Fables* seems a bit light-hearted in concept — what if all of the characters from our childhood stories were kicked out of their world and had to live in ours? The big bad wolf is now a detective, Snow White is now a bureaucrat, Beauty and the Beast have huge marital problems. What also crosses over into our world, though, is the absurd violence, now portrayed in a much more graphic, destructive manner. Snow White's sister has gone missing, and all that's been left behind is a big, bloody mess.

*Preacher* is one of the more bizarre of Vertigo's tales, and it is a bit more popular. The story revolves around Jesse Custer, a preacher from Texas who suddenly finds himself with the "voice of God," a power to make people do whatever he commands them. After suddenly gaining the power in the middle of a sermon, and then consequently murdering all of the members of the congregation, Custer is on the run from the law. He encounters his ex-girlfriend Tulip and an Irish vampire named Cassidy. The first issue finds the characters searching for their bearings, and it is quite compelling.

*Sandman Mystery Theatre* is an attempt at recreating 1940's era detective fiction with a bit of a thriller twist. The story is a bit harder to follow than the others, and the illustration style is very stylistic, to the point that it almost detracts. It is one of the weakest stories in *First Offenses*.

*Lucifer* is a series about big red, the ol' devil himself. The devil is no longer king of the Underworld,



however, and now owns and operates a restaurant in Los Angeles. When the man upstairs has dirty work to accomplish, he sends his angel Amenadiel to contract Lucifer's services. We are also introduced to Paul and Rachel Begai, a brother-sister pair. Paul suffers from Rett Syndrome, inhibiting major motor and perceptual skills, and this causes him to be a bit of a burden and nuisance for Rachel. Little does Rachel know that Paul actually has some hidden power, prompting the sudden appearance of Lucifer to investigate, as he tries to complete the task that God has given him.

Each of the stories is a pretty quick read, and they provide enough of a creative concept to intrigue any fan of fiction. The idea of being able to buy a collection of these works for such a low price creates hopes that perhaps Vertigo could continue the idea, and offer a book collecting the second issues as well, and so on. Chances are, however, that they won't, and so something like *Vertigo: First Offenses* should be enjoyed while it's around.

# Conductor Fleisher inspires at Peabody ensemble program

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B6  
The scherzo movement was exciting and seemed to tell a story of a journey to a palace, after which the music arrived inside the palace and finally saw the King of whatever majestic land Beethoven and Fleisher brought the audience. The close of the breathless third movement meant the opening of the last movement. It seemed almost to be summoned by the chiming of bells, and it maintained the previous movement's element of program and suspense. Though the hall was filled with a wild drive and rich orchestral sound, Fleisher, the man responsible for the catch phrase, "Support the composer!" and a "great grand-student" (his teacher, Artur Schnabel studied with Beethoven's student), made sure it was appropriate for Beethoven.

Though Fleisher brought the best out of the Peabody Symphony Orchestra Saturday night, there were several flaws

exclusive to the composition of the orchestra itself, which did not disappear. Every entrance of the horns was sloppy and insecure. It was obvious at times, to the untrained ear, that parts of the string sections had not rehearsed enough, and individual musicians had failed to practice to the extent that the work required of them, both points which the orchestra's section leaders should have taken care of. There were, however, strengths of the ensemble that no one had heard before. A sense of musical melding, drive and a real respect and following of the conductor diminished its flaws, which ultimately masked them, preventing them from creating a distraction for the audience from the music.

The audience left the hall after endless rounds of applause having experienced an evening of music that stirred emotions within, and produced an almost cathartic effect.

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Additional information and the application form can be found at <http://getintothearts.jhu.edu/sudlerprize/index.html>.

If you have any questions, contact Ms. Morgan at (410)516-4013 or [jmorgan@jhu.edu](mailto:jmorgan@jhu.edu).



# CARTOONS, ETC.

your horoscope



**Aries:** (March 21 - April 19)  
March will be a super-awesome month for you in terms of the progress toward recovery that your hernia will make.

**Taurus:** (April 20 - May 20)  
"28 Ways To Love Yourself and the Herpes You Have," your literary opus, is released to hot, burning and itchy reviews nationwide.

**Gemini:** (May 21 - June 20)  
Is it that time of the month again? That time when you turn down the shades, disrobe and splash around in a tub of Raisinets?

**Cancer:** (June 21 - July 22)  
Mining might not be the best career choice for your Writing Seminars degree, especially since you have the musculature of a mussel.

**Leo:** (July 23 - Aug. 22)  
The last thing you want to deal with during your weekend is rough gas. Try keeping yourself rough-gas-free through prayer.

**Virgo:** (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)  
Moon landings should come back. A movie should then be made in which Samuel L. Jackson shouts himself and others into space.

**Libra:** (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22)  
Day turns into night every day. Have you just figured this out? You get a prize. It's called my fist in your face.

**Scorpio:** (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)  
We like to believe that we're alone in this universe, but the truth is, for centuries we have been hunted by lunar-fish-creatures!

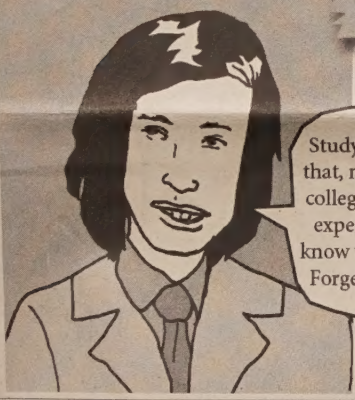
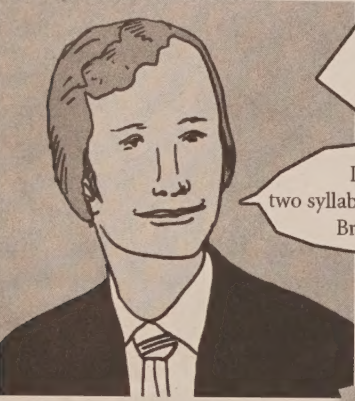
**Sagittarius:** (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)  
Demand free cable. It's your right as an American to sit around in your underwear watching *Happy Days* reruns, dag nabbit!

**Capricorn:** (Dec. 23 - Jan. 19)  
Human noises can sometimes be pretty annoying, especially if they're recorded and made into a cell-phone's ring.

**Aquarius:** (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)  
Lunar-fish-creatures may not have actually existed, but this shouldn't stop you from creating a media blitz claiming that they did.

**Pisces:** (Feb. 19 - March 20)  
Cooperation with your spouse ... wait a minute, you have a spouse? Cut the dead weight! Get rid of the ball and chain! Mine the moon!

Yearbook Confessions



How did I unwind after lots of studying?  
By studying some more, of course!

I've got two syllables for you, bro. Brew - ski.

... man, i suck...

This week:  
How did you relax after heavy studying?

I'd help old people cross the street, then trip them on the other side.

Studying? What's that, man... dude... college is all about experimenting... know what I mean? Forget studying...

## Snakes on a Plane ... and Nice Breasts

This may come as a shock to many of you, but sometimes I like to watch movies that aren't pornographic. You may be familiar with these. They're the ones that have actual characters and a plot and sometimes people do things that aren't each other.

Sure, some of these films may have a disappointing lack of graphic sex (*Pooh's Heffalump Movie*, I'm looking in your direction), but they make up for it with intellectual stimulation. Movies make people think. Or at least they make me think. For example, "I think that actress has nice breasts."

As you can tell, this movie is about snakes on a plane. There are other elements to the plot, like an assassin trying to eliminate a witness in protective custody, but this is all secondary to the main point of the film: snakes that are on a plane. Or, conversely, a plane that has snakes on it. Either way, we know what we're getting: some sort of snake/plane combination, with action-packed results.

Matt Diamond

One Fry Short

As if this wasn't amazing enough, we also have a stellar cast, led by one of the greatest thespians of our time: Samuel L. Jackson. This man needs no introduction. He's been in every movie ever made. He's made shouting into an art. I'm not sure exactly what he's going to do in this movie, but I can tell you this: Samuel L. Jackson doesn't take crap from anybody. Especially snakes. Especially when they're on his goddamn plane.

In case that's not enough for you, the cast is also rounded out by Kenan Thompson, who many of you may know from the Nickelodeon show "Kenan and Kel." I've actually seen a screenshot from *Snakes on a Plane* with Kenan in it, and suffice it to say, there are snakes on him. And he's not very happy about it. Unfortunately, it doesn't look like Kel is going to be in this movie, which is a shame, since it could've resulted in some pretty awesome lines ("Who loves orange soda? Kel loves orange soda! BUT NOT SNAKES"). Then again, can he really top his Oscar-worthy performance in *Good Burger*?

Of course, there have been efforts to derail this movie, including efforts to change the title to something much less awesome, such as *Pacific Air 121*. Who the hell would want to see a movie called *Pacific Air 121*? It doesn't mention snakes at all.

Luckily, Samuel L. Jackson protested, explaining that the title was the only reason he took the job. I can't blame him; *Snakes on a Plane* is perhaps the greatest movie title since *Leprechaun in the Hood*. The title lays out exactly what you're getting: There's a plane and there are snakes on it. As Jackson himself puts it, "You either want to see that, or you don't."

Whether or not *Snakes on a Plane* receives critical acclaim on the level of *Brokeback Mountain* is a moot point. *Brokeback Mountain* may have gay cowboys, but *Snakes on a Plane* has snakes. And a plane. It's such a natural combination; I can't help but wonder if the Wright Brothers had snakes in mind from the start. Regardless of their intentions, it has become obvious to me that planes were meant for snakes, and vice versa. Think of it like Romeo and Juliet, but with reptiles and aircraft.

In conclusion, everyone needs to see *Snakes on a Plane*. There's no way this movie can fail. The hype for this film has been building like crazy; there's even a Facebook group for it, and we all know what that means. To sum it all up: This film has Samuel L. Jackson, Kenan, snakes and a plane. So jump on the bandwagon before it's too late, because movies don't get any better than this. Unless, of course, there are boobies in it.

Matt Diamond wishes he knew how to quit you and can be contacted at [mdiamond@jhu.edu](mailto:mdiamond@jhu.edu).

JHU Public Health



...and then he was like, "OMG!"

HAHAHAHA!

Dude, you tell the most ridonkulous stories!

Hey! That reminds me of this story!

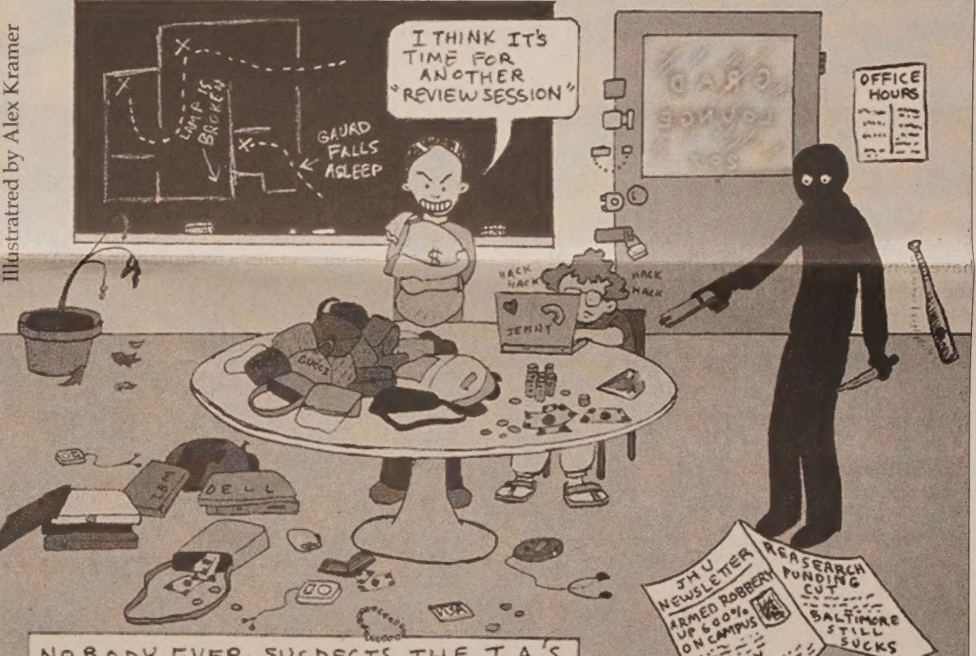
Crap, time to ghost like Swayze...

Uhhm... Guys?

...But I found twenty bucks at the end~!...

a jackson

Master of Arts



Illustrated by Alex Kramer

I THINK IT'S TIME FOR ANOTHER "REVIEW SESSION"

GAUD FALLS ASLEEP


NOBODY EVER SUSPECTS THE T.A.'S

JHU NEWSLETTER ARMED ROBBERY UP 500% ON CAMPUS

RESEARCH PENDING

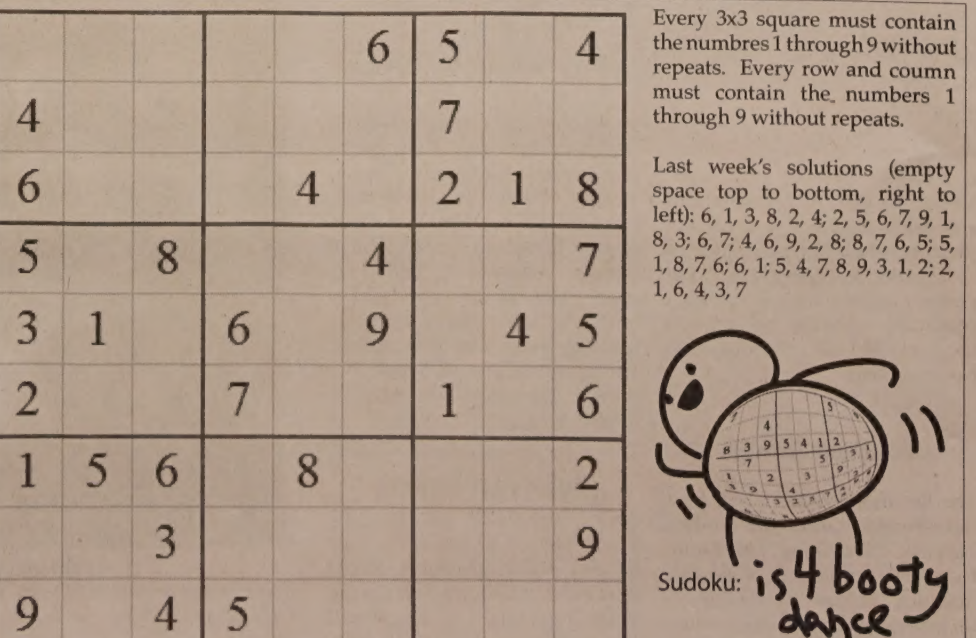
SAITMURE STILL SUCKS

Wasted Ink



BILLY!!! WHERE ARE YOU??!!

Go-go Sudoku!



Every 3x3 square must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repeats. Every row and column must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repeats.

Last week's solutions (empty space top to bottom, right to left): 6, 1, 3, 8, 2, 4; 2, 5, 6, 7, 9, 1, 8, 3; 6, 7, 4, 6, 9, 2, 8; 8, 7, 6, 5, 1, 8, 7, 6; 6, 1, 5, 4, 7, 8, 9, 3, 1, 2; 2, 1, 6, 4, 3, 7.

Sudoku: is 4 booty dance



# CALENDAR FEB. 23-MAR. 2

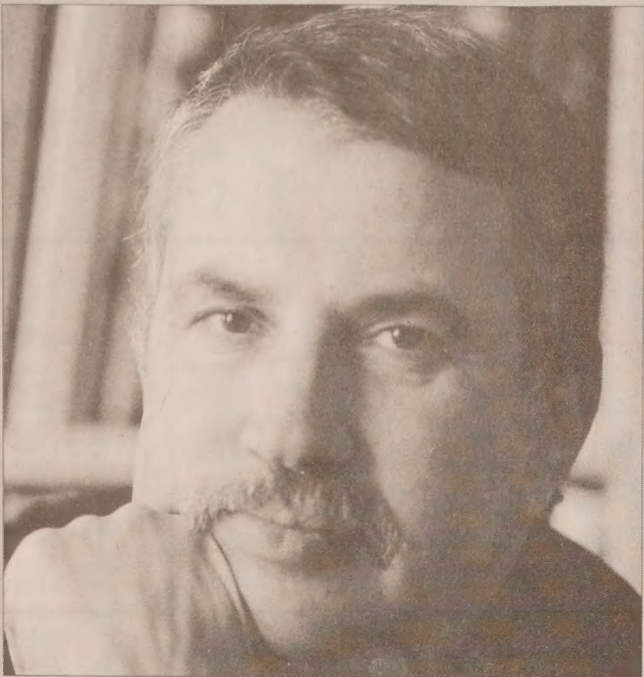


## Thomas Friedman speaks for FAS

The Johns Hopkins Foreign Affairs Symposium (FAS) presents Thomas Friedman, *New York Times* columnist, on Feb. 28 at 8 p.m. in the Shriver Hall auditorium. His talk is titled "The Rising East: India and China in the 21st Century." The speech will address the current emergence of India and China as significant nations in today's continually dynamic world. Emphasis will be placed on the means by which America might compete and cooperate with these powers.

Friedman, an award-winning journalist who has won the Pulitzer Prize three times, may be most well-known for his foreign affairs column in the *New York Times*, but the writer also has a number of books to his name, including *The Lexus and the Olive Tree*, *From Beirut to Jerusalem*, *Longitudes and Attitudes* and the recent bestseller *The World is Flat*, which details the progression of globalization during the transition from the 20th to the 21st century.

The Foreign Affairs Symposium, which takes place during the spring semester of every year, strives to create an environment for internationally renowned speakers to present their opinions and stimulate intellectual exchange. This year's theme, "Ideologies in Flux: Examining Divergent Political Strains



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.GOLDBERGMC DUFFIE.COM](http://www.goldbergmcduffie.com)  
Three-time Pulitzer Prize winner Thomas Friedman will speak at Shriver Hall this Tuesday.

in Geopolitics," will focus on the changes in governments and ideologies around the world as well as the resistance met by these changes. Also of importance in discussions will be the role of the United States as an aid, an example or an obstacle during this period of reform.

The Foreign Affairs Symposium was founded in 1998 with the coming together of the Woodrow Wilson International Studies and the International

Studies Forum Symposia. The Symposium is an entirely student-run forum that boasts an array of distinguished individuals invited to speak on issues of global importance to the Hopkins community as well as citizens of Baltimore City and the District of Columbia. For more information on the Symposium, please visit <http://www.jhu.edu/fas>.

—Anusha Gopalratnam

## Campus Events

### Thursday, Feb. 23

6 p.m. A **SAC General Meeting** will take place at the Mattin Center, room 161. For more information go to [sacexec@jhu.edu](mailto:sacexec@jhu.edu).

7:30 p.m. The HOP presents **Java Jam**, open-mic night at the Hop Stop in Levering Hall. This is a free event. The Octopodes, Jake Dalpiaz and other student talents are scheduled to perform.

8 p.m. **Capoeira**, an Afro-Brazilian martial art, will be offering two-hour classes for beginners on the third floor of the Rec Center. No previous experience is required. For more information go to <http://www.jhu.edu/capoeira> or e-mail [tmc@jhu.edu](mailto:tmc@jhu.edu).

### Friday, Feb. 24

2:30 p.m. **Cooking for Love** will be preparing food at 603 University One. The meals will be given to My Sister's Place, a women's homeless shelter in Baltimore.

8 p.m. Theatre Hopkins will perform the comedy "**What I Did Last Summer**" at the Swirnow Theater. The play is set during World War II and is about a young boy who begins to rebel against his proper family with the help of an eccentric neighbor. Cost is \$15 for general admission and \$5 for student rush tickets. For more information call (410) 516-7159.

8 p.m. Friday Night Films and SASH will host a screening of **Bride and Prejudice**, a Bollywood remake of the Jane Austen novel, starring Aishwarya Rai and Martin Henderson. The movie will be shown at Mudd Hall. Admission is \$2. For more information contact Zarrah Keshwani at [Zkeshwa1@jhu.edu](mailto:Zkeshwa1@jhu.edu).

10 p.m. **Coffee Grounds** takes place every Friday night in the Mattin Center Silk Road Cafe. Come out for the free Krispy Kreme doughnuts and coffee and stay for the fun evening activity.

11:15 p.m. The Hopkins Ice Hockey Team will face off against Loyola in the "**Battle of Charles Street**" match. Hopkins seeks to secure their position for the upcoming playoffs. This event will take place at the Mt. Pleasant Ice Arena. For more information go to <http://www.jhu.edu/icehockey>.

### Saturday, Feb. 25

1 p.m. A **Hopkins Lacrosse Game** will be held at Homewood Field. The Blue Jays will play against Albany. Cost is \$7 for general admission. For more information

call the Athletic Center at (410) 516-7490.

8 p.m. Theatre Hopkins will hold another performance of "**What I Did Last Summer**" at the Swirnow Theater. Cost is \$15 for general admission and \$5 for student rush tickets. For more information call (410) 516-7159.

### Sunday, Feb. 26

2 p.m. Theatre Hopkins will hold a final performance of "**What I Did Last Summer**" at the Swirnow Theater. Cost is \$15 for general admission and \$5 for student rush tickets. For more information call (410) 516-7159.

5:30 p.m. The **Vienna Piano Trio** will perform in the Shriver Hall Concert Series. The performance will include Mozart's Piano Trio in B-flat major, Schoenberg's "Transfigured Night" and Schubert's Piano Trio in E-flat major. This is a free event to Homewood undergrads.

### Monday, Feb. 27

6:30 p.m. A **SAC General Meeting** will take place at the Mattin Center room 161. For more information go to [sacexec@jhu.edu](mailto:sacexec@jhu.edu).

### Tuesday, Feb. 28

6:30 p.m. **Free Massages** will be

given at the HopStop. For more information call Savithri Raja at (410) 516-8209 or e-mail her at [savithri@jhu.edu](mailto:savithri@jhu.edu).

7:30 p.m. A **Student Council General Meeting** will convene at the Shriver Hall Board Room. For more information contact Atin Agarwal at [stucco@jhu.edu](mailto:stucco@jhu.edu).

8 p.m. The **DC Improv Comedy Club** will bring the District's Funniest College Competition to the Arellano Theater. Performers should prepare a five to six minute stand-up routine. This is a free event. For more information contact [allyson@dcimprov.com](mailto:allyson@dcimprov.com) or call (202) 296-7008.

8 p.m. Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Thomas Friedman will give a talk on "**The Rising East: India and China in the 21st Century**." This event is sponsored by the Foreign Affairs Symposium and will be held at Shriver Hall. For more information go to <http://www.jhu.edu/fas>.

### Thursday, Mar. 2

6 p.m. A **SAC General Meeting** will take place at the Mattin Center room 161. For more information go to [sacexec@jhu.edu](mailto:sacexec@jhu.edu).

7 p.m. A **Greek New Member Orientation: Buy In or Get Out** program will be held for all new fraternity or sorority members at the Glass Pavilion. This is a free event. For more information contact Robert Turning, the coordinator of Greek life, at (410) 516-2224 or at [GreekLife@jhu.edu](mailto:GreekLife@jhu.edu).

## BARGAIN EVENTS

### Free

#### Viva Brasil! Capoeira, Candomblé and the Favelas

Viva Brasil! Capoeira, Candomblé and the Favelas will be held at the Creative Alliance on Friday, Feb. 24 from 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. The evening will celebrate the rich Brazilian culture which developed from a grueling history of slavery. The International Capoeira Angola Foundation of Baltimore will perform. Traditional Brazilian food will be sold separately. For more information go to <http://www.creativealliance.org>.

### \$5 to \$10

#### D.I.Y. Design it Yourself Workshop

Screen print your own shirt at a D.I.Y. Design it Yourself Workshop Monday, Feb. 27 to Thursday, Mar. 2 at the Maryland Institute, College of Art. Bring your own shirt and a design idea, and create your own style for a \$5 supply fee. Participants can take part in several other D.I.Y. activities which will include free zine printing and button making. For more information visit <http://www.mica.edu>.

### \$10 to \$25+

#### Project\_One

Centerstage will host Project\_One, an effort to unite all forms of art under one roof, on Wednesday, Mar. 1. The price of a ticket will include food and wine tasting, access to an exhibit of the latest local artists, a performance by the Balinese dance troop Gamelan Mitra Kusuma, a fashion show of couture clothing and background bossa nova music. Tickets cost \$25. For more information go to [http://enhanca.com/project\\_one](http://enhanca.com/project_one).

## Visual Arts

### The Creative Alliance at the Patterson

The critically-acclaimed **Sex Worker's Art Show Tour** will visit the Creative Alliance this Tuesday, Feb. 28 from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. The Art Show is a mix of music, media and performance of cabaret music from those who work in the sex industry. Among the performers will be Shanon Harlot, a prominent advocate for the rights of prostitutes, and Simone de la Ghetto of the world's only black burlesque group Harlem Shake. Tickets range from \$7 to \$10. For more information go to <http://www.creativealliance.org> or call (410) 276-1651.

Photographs by Mari Gardner and Kamau Blakney will be exhibited in **Life in a Favela and a Seaside Ceremony: Brazilian Photographs**. These snapshots of Brazilian life capture both the poverty and the intense spiritual community that can be found in the heart of Latin America. This is a free event.

### Resurgam Gallery

The Resurgam Gallery will host **Kiln-Formed Glass: the World's Newest Sculpture Medium**. Kiln-formed glass is a flexible medium, capable of taking on several colors in one piece when different pieces of glass are melt-

ed together. These pieces will be on display on March 2 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free. For more information go to <http://www.resurgamgallery.com>.

### Maryland Federation of Art City Gallery

The **Go Figure Exhibition** will come to the Maryland Federation of Art City Gallery on Thursday, Feb. 23 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Go Figure will display several works by artists from all over the country. All pieces will come from a variety of media geared towards representing the human figure in creative and distinct forms. This is a free event. For more information go to <http://www.mdfedart.org>.

### Jewish Museum of Maryland

A display of vintage clothing and accessories will be exhibited in **Hello Gorgeous! Fashion, Beauty and the Jewish-American Ideal**. The exhibit will focus on how Jewish women overcame various obstacles to find their own identity through fashion and popular culture. The museum is located at 15 Lloyd St. Hours are 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. For more information call (410) 732-6400 Ext. 14.

### Walters Art Museum

The Walters Art Museum will be hosting **Art from India, Nepal and Tibet: The John and Berthe Ford Collection**. The exhibit will feature various art forms, includ-

ing religious cloth paintings, stone and clay sculptures and a diverse array of Muslim and Buddhist art.

The exhibit will be open from Wednesday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information call (410) 547-9000 or visit the Web site at <http://www.waltersartmuseum.org>.

## MOVIE OPENING

### Madea's Family Reunion

Movie debuting at the AMC Towson Theater this Friday  
Showtimes: 1:30 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m., 10:15 p.m.



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.ROTTENTOMATOES.COM](http://www.rottentomatoes.com)  
Lynn Whitfield and Jenifer Lewis star in *Madea's Family Reunion*, a film about a dysfunctional family that reunites under one roof to sort through their issues.



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.LIVEMUSICINDIANA.COM](http://www.livemusicindiana.com)  
Shinedown lead singer Brent Smith and his band prepare to rock out Baltimore.

## Shinedown will perform at the Rams Head Tavern

Next Tuesday, Feb. 28th, Shinedown will be coming to the Rams Head Tavern. The band will be headlining with Seether and Flyleaf, and Halestorm will be opening. Shinedown and Co. have been touring the country in Winterfresh's "SnoCore" concert series, which will last until March. The hard-rock quartet are from Jacksonville, Fla., and feature vocalist Brent Smith, guitarist Jasin Todd, bassist Brad Stewart and drummer Barry Kerch. The group released their debut album *Leave a Whisper* in 2003. *Whisper* ended up doing well on the Billboard music charts, aided by its single "Fly from the Inside." They returned in October 2005 with their sophomore effort *Us and Them*.

With their nu metal sound countered by unprecedented, empathetic melodies, Shinedown has often been compared to bands like Creed and Nickelback. They have shown a resilience that is rare in the music industry, beating out many of the copy-cat bands that surfaced in the late 90s. Shinedown broke free from the mold by consistently releasing powerful music. In 2004 the band released a single, a cover

of Lynyrd Skynyrd's "Simple Man," which was hailed as surprisingly true to the original and proved that Shinedown could successfully fuse Southern rock elements with their contemporary hard-rock sound. In their newest album, singles "Save Me" and "Lady So Divine" prove that this group has even more to offer. While clocking out at just over seven minutes, "Lady So Divine" captures listeners with its impressive display of Todd's guitar skills and Smith's extraordinary vocal range and depth. The song's guitar solos will definitely be a sight to see.

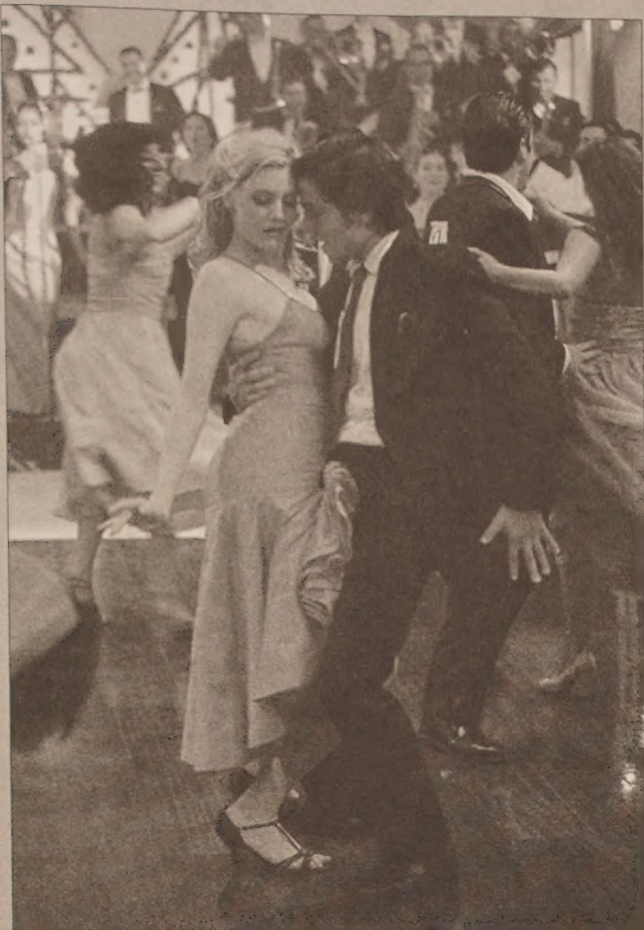
Shinedown will be joined by South African post-grunge, hard rockers Seether. Seether is comprised of lead vocalist and guitarist Shaun Morgan, bassist and backup vocalist Dale Stewart, guitarist Pat Callahan and drummer John Humphrey. With the addition of Halestorm and Flyleaf, "SnoCore" will be an exciting event for any fan of new rock. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. with the show starting at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$22.50 and can be purchased at <http://ticketing.ramsheadlive.com>.

—Jake Koenig



## CALENDAR

# Latin dance lessons to spice up Baltimore



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.ROTTENTOMATOES.COM](http://www.rottentomatoes.com)  
Learn to dance like celebrities Romola Garai and Diego Luna did in *Dirty Dancing: Havana Nights*. Lessons will be offered at the Friday Night Dance Club this Sat.

Dance lessons, whether they be nuanced etiquette for the ballroom or basic "how not to convulse on the dance floor" pointers, have recently regained great popularity in the non-Latino community. Within the last couple of years, multiple films and television series have been released, with everything from the spiced-up remake of *Dirty Dancing: Havana Nights* to Jennifer Lopez's *Shall We Dance* to campy runaway TV hit *Dancing with the Stars*.

All of them involve the characters or contestants shaking to salsa and merengue among other popular Latin American dances. These intrepid dancers have inspired a wave of envious followers and J.Lo-hopefuls.

This Saturday, Feb. 25, the Friday Night Dance Club will offer Latin dance lessons with dance instructor Stanley Nazaire for all those eager to try out some new moves.

Latin dance is a fast-paced style, emphasizing sensual maneuvers and rhythmically expressive motions. It can be danced competitively, but can most often be heard and danced to at clubs and Hispanic family dinners. But neither salsa nor merengue, the two most popular partner-dance styles, have strict rules of how they should be danced, although one can distinguish a number of styles.

Salsa music is a fusion of traditional African and Cuban and other Latin-American rhythms that traveled from the islands (Cuba and Puerto Rico) to New York during the migration, somewhere between the 1940s and the 1970s. The dance steps originate from the Cuban son, but has influences from many other Cuban dances such as mambo.

Merengue is a music style from the Dominican Republic, and like the vast majority of Caribbean music, is deeply rooted in both African and Spanish music. The traditional instruments include the accordion and the guitar, part of the Spanish influence, and the tambora, guira, and the marimba, the results of the African influences.

Fortunately there are plenty of opportunities available on and off campus to catch the rhythmic bug or hone your dancing skills. Lessons with Nazaire will start at 8 p.m. The Friday Night Dance Club is located at the Towson Armory. For more information, visit <http://www.fridaynightswing.com>. For more ballroom dancing contact the Johns Hopkins Ballroom Dancing Club at [jhbdc@yahoo.com](mailto:jhbdc@yahoo.com).

—Laura Peralta

## Concert List

### Thursday, Feb. 23

7 p.m. Take on new beginnings at Sonar with **Second Sunrise**. Also performing will be Cutlery, Nautilus, the Bright Lights, Four Fifty One and John Russell. For more information go to <http://www.sonarbaltimore.com>.

8 p.m. The **Morgan Heritage** and Soldiers of Jah Army invade the Recher Theatre with Panic and the Rebels. For more information go to <http://www.rechertheatre.com>.

8 p.m. The **Jarflys** will perform at the 8x10 Club. For more information go to <http://www.the8x10.com>.

9:30 p.m. MT6 Record's **Bo Lee Da** prepare to play at the Talking Head with the support of Dad Liquor Pond, Heroin UK, Blakk Sweat and Jakuta & Carl. For more information go to <http://www.talkingheadclub.com>.

### Friday, Feb. 24

8 p.m. A Mardi Gras Party will be held at the 8x10 Club with The **Regan Years** and Johnny Law. For more information go to <http://www.the8x10.com>.

8 p.m. Sonar will host the **Clarks** and Michael Tolcher. For more information go to <http://www.sonarbaltimore.com>.

9:30 p.m. MICA-based **Ecstatic Sunshine** will light up the Talking Head with Ponytail, 209 and Wylie Maverick. For more information go to <http://www.talkingheadclub.com>.

### Saturday, Feb. 25

6:30 p.m. More than a brand of citrus fruit, **Valencia** will perform at Sonar with Sarcasm, Zella Mayzell, Minus One and Life Before This. For more information go to <http://www.sonarbaltimore.com>.

8 p.m. **Eleven:54** will keep the time at Fletcher's Bar and Grill. For more information go to <http://www.fletchersbar.com>.

8 p.m. **Scheduled Beating**, Wisdom in Chains, Bringing Back the Glory, Spit on Your Grave and Stop Drop and Roll will play at the Side Bar. For more information go to <http://www.sidebartavern.com>.

8:30 p.m. The Red Room Collective will host **Dawn of the Night of Solos** featuring Lexie Moun-

tain, Jeff Donaldson and Max Eisenberg. For more information go to <http://www.redroom.com>.

9 p.m. The **Grand Buffet** will dish out some tasty tunes at the Ottobar with Dan Deacon, Peeland-Z, Shodekeh and guests. For more information go to <http://www.theottobar.com>.

9 p.m. **Trephine** and Misery Index will visit the Mojo Room. For more information go to <http://www.themojobalto.com>.

9 p.m. The **Ambitions** will play at the Side Bar. For more information go to <http://www.sidebar-tavern.com>.

9:30 p.m. **Jason Dove and the Magic Whip** beat the Talking Head into shape with French Kicks side project Rahim and ex-Slowjets members Mean Spirits. For more information go to <http://www.talkingheadclub.com>.

9:30 p.m. **Cuong Vu** will perform a trumpet concert and will be accompanied by Stomu Takeishi on bass and Ted Poor on drums at An die Musik. For more information go to <http://www.andiemusiklive.com>.

### Sunday, Feb. 26

6:30 p.m. **Waking Ashland** will arise at the Ottobar with the help of Sherwood, Adelphi, Mashlin and everyone's preferred method of interstate travel My Favorite Highway. For more information go to <http://www.theottobar.com>.

8 p.m. The **Mozley Rose** will perform at the 8x10 Club with the Boogie Hustlers. For more information go to <http://www.the8x10.com>.

8 p.m. Soprano and tenor saxophone player Lawrence Ochs will present "What We Live," a concert with Lisle Ellis on acoustic bass, Donald Robinson on drums and folk singer Saadet Turkoz on vocals. For more information go to <http://www.andiemusiklive.com>.

### Monday, Feb. 27

7 p.m. **No Use for a Name** will remain anonymous at Recher Theatre with Suicide Machines, I am Avalanche and Versus the World. For more information go to <http://www.rechertheatre.com>.

7 p.m. **Rookie of the Year** goes up to bat at Sonar with team players Rory, Upper Class Trash, Gatsby Gets the Green Light and Something Pure. For more information go to <http://www.sonarbaltimore.com>.



COURTESY OF [HTTP://IMAGES.RHINO.COM](http://images.rhino.com)  
The Deftones, consisting of drummer Abe Cunningham, vocalist Chino Moreno, guitarist Stephen Carpenter and bassist Chi Cheng, will perform at the 9:30 Club.

### Tuesday, Feb. 28

5:30 p.m. **Shinedown** and Seether will visit the Rams Head. For more information go to <http://www.ramsheadlive.com>.

7 p.m. The **Night Light** will keep you safe at the Ottobar with the help of Haddonfield, Kenmore and July Never Comes. For more information go to <http://www.theottobar.com>.

[theottobar.com](http://theottobar.com).

### Wednesday, Mar. 1

7:30 p.m. The **Finals** sum it up at Sonar with Lives or Levels, the Late Night, American Diary and Catching Thieves. For more information go to <http://www.sonarbaltimore.com>.

## NIGHTLIFE

### Clubs

9:30 Club, 815 V St., NW, Washington, D.C., (202) 393-0930  
Baja Beach Club, 55 Market Pl., (410) 727-0468  
Bohagers, 701S. Eden St., (410) 563-7220  
Black Cat, 1811 14th St. NW, Washington, D.C. (202) 667-7960  
Brass Monkey, 1601 Eastern Ave., (410) 522-0784  
Buddies Pub and Jazz Club, 313 N. Charles St., (410) 332-4200  
Cat's Eye Pub, 1730 Thames St., (410) 276-9085  
Club 2314, 2314 Boston St., (410) 276-9556  
DeGroen's Grill, 104 Albemarle St., (410) 837-5000  
Fletcher's, 701 S. Bond St., (410) 558-1889  
Hal Daddy's, 4119 E. Lombard St., (410) 342-3239  
Harry's, 1200 N. Charles St., (410) 685-2828  
Hammerjacks, 316 Guilford Ave., (410) 234-0044  
Horse You Came In On, 1626 Thames St., (410) 327-8111  
Iguana Cantina, 124 Market Place, (410) 244-0200  
Latin Palace, 509 S. Broadway, (410) 522-6700  
Lava Lounge, Pier Four, (410) 539-7888  
Ottobar, 2549 N. Howard St., (410) 662-0069  
Recher Theatre, 512 York Rd., Towson, (410) 337-7178  
Redwood Trust, 200 E. Redwood St., (410) 669-9500  
Sonar, 407 E. Saratoga St., (410) 327-8333  
The Talking Head, 203 E. Davis St., (410) 962-5588  
The Vault, 401 W. Baltimore St., (410) 244-6000  
Waterfront Hotel, 1710 Thames St., (410) 327-4886  
Wyatt's, 1614 Eastern Ave., (410) 732-8656

### Comedy

Comedy Factory, 36 Light St., (410) 752-4189  
The Improv, 6 Market Pl. at Power Plant Live, (410) 727-8500  
Tracy's Comedy Shop, 9306 Harford Rd., (410) 665-8600

### Coffee

Borders Bookstore and Music, 415 York Rd., (410) 296-0791  
Café Tattoo, 4825 Belair Rd., (410) 325-7427  
Carma's Café, 3120 St. Paul St., (410) 243-5200  
Donna's, 3101 St. Paul St., (410) 889-3410  
Fell's Point Café, 723 S. Broadway, (410) 327-8800  
Funk's Democratic Coffee, 1818 Eastern Ave., (410) 276-3865  
HopStop, Levering Hall, JHU, (410) 516-6219  
Images Café, 3120 St. Paul St. (410) 235-3054  
Margaret's Café, 909 Fell St., (410) 276-5606  
One World Café, 100 W. University Parkway, (410) 235-5777  
Red Emma's, 800 St. Paul St.  
Sweet Retreat, 3215 N. Charles St.  
Xandos, 3003 N. Charles St., (410) 889-7076  
Ze Mean Bean Café, 1739 Fleet St., (410) 675-5999

### Movie Theatres

AMC Towson Commons 8, 435 York Rd., (410) 825-5233  
Charles Theatre, 1711 N. Charles St., (410) 727-FILM  
Rotunda Cinematheque, 711 W. 40th St., (410) 235-4800  
Senator Theatre, 5904 York Rd., (410) 435-8338

### Thursday, Mar. 2

8 p.m. The **Deftones** will perform at the 9:30 Club in Washington, D.C. For more information go to <http://www.930.com>.

8 p.m. Garrett Dutton, also known as **G. Love and the Special Sauce**, will visit the Rams Head. For more information go to <http://www.ramsheadlive.com>.

8 p.m. Hot Topic presents the **Sub City Take Action Tour** featuring Matchbook Romance, Silverstien, Early November, Amber Pacific and Paramore. For more information go to <http://www.sonarbaltimore.com>.

9 p.m. **Bo Bim** will play at the Sidebar Tavern with the Gorgonites and the Headwounds. More info at <http://www.sidebartavern.com>.

9 p.m. **Trip Lizard** will crawl their way into the Black Cat in Washington, D.C. with the help of the Originators. For more information go to <http://www.blackcatdc.com>.

9:30 p.m. Baltimore natives **Metal Hearts** play at the Talking Head with opening bands Audible and Wax and Wane. For more information go to <http://www.talkingheadclub.com>.

—Compiled by Stephanie Yu

## Got an Event?

Send details about future events, including date, time, location, a brief summary of the event to [events@jhunewsletter.com](mailto:events@jhunewsletter.com). Please e-mail all events the Monday before publication.

## Exposure

By Shiv Ghandi



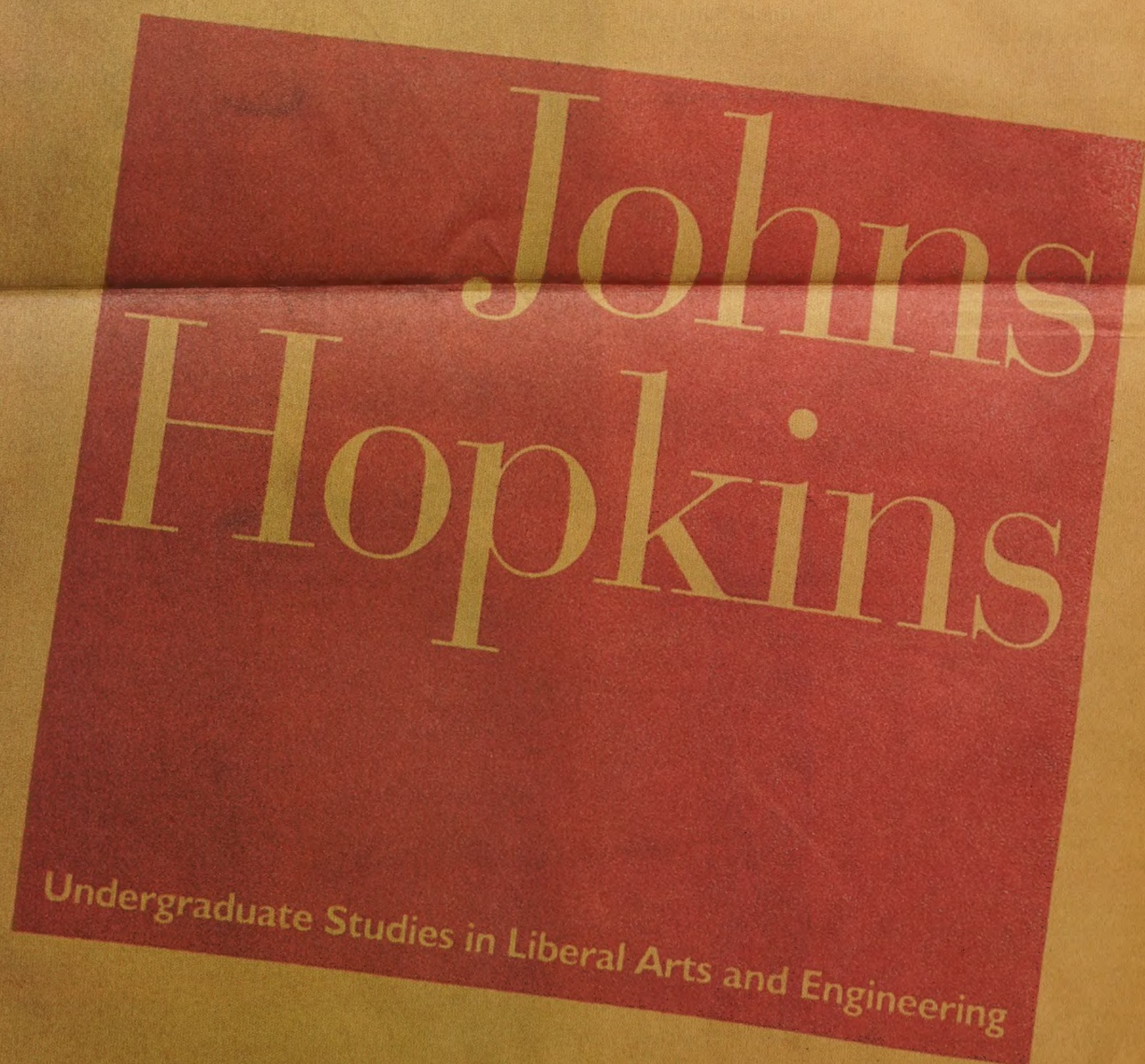


# Major in kindness

Remember when you were new to campus?

Campus visitors can always use a hand—getting around, making friends, finding places. Now it's easier than ever to help. That's because they'll be toting the yellow and red bag they got from Admissions to carry campus maps, guides, and information.

If you spot someone with a big yellow Johns Hopkins bag, be nice. Help them feel at home...at Homewood.



**Spot a bag...make a friend**

**JOHNS HOPKINS**  
UNIVERSITY  
Office of Undergraduate Admissions